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rare combination, though perhaps it was seen in Shakespeare, too; anyway, he was a pattern for those men of letters, often of high genius, whose masterly egotism is carefully concealed in their biographies, though well known to their friends.

Scott was very sensible of the absurdity and bother of being a celebrity, and he writes:—

"After all it is very difficult to be a lion in good society if you happen to be at the same time a beast of moderate bearing and of common sense. The part played by the Lion in the Spectator who fought on the stage with Nicolini is much easier. If you do not make some play you are set down either for a sulky or a paltry animal—and if you do there is generally something absurd in it. For my part, who am sometimes called upon to be a lion, I always form myself on the model of that noble animal who was so unnecessarily disturbed by the knight of the woeful countenance. He rose up, turned himself round in his caravan, shewed himself front and rear, then licked his moustachios with a yard of tongue, yawned most formidably, and then lay down in peace."

These remarks were produced by a passage in a letter from Mrs. Hughes which will show her own powers as a correspondent:—

"There is a very respectable Menagerie of Leamington Lions (to use the Oxford term) at present. That 'old original lion,' which cannot be tamed by the hand of man"—Dr. Parr—resides about four miles from hence, and frequently drives over to snuff up the incense of his worshippers; he moves in a sort of Juggernaut procession up and down the street, dressed in a black velvet fancy great-coat with a very small triangular hat exactly like those worn by the London coachmen when they drive in state, perched on the top of his huge wig; out of this the broad disk of his fiery face, unsheltered from the sun and bronzed with the red dust of the road, gleams portentously like the sun struggling through a thunder cloud; his voice roars and echoes through the whole street, as he notices his numerous acquaintance, who, cap in hand, approach in their turn and pay their homage; there is so much display and paltry vanity in all this that I cannot connect such *Charlatanerie* with my idea of a great mind. I love to see old age venerable, and really he makes it farcical."

Mrs. Hughes's son went to Abbotsford, too, and gave his mother this judicious account of the chief figures there:—

"I forgot to mention the Lockharts. She I should think had most of her father of any of the family; carries it in her manner and countenance. Him I found very attentive and civil, as an old Oxonian; but there is an *air* in speaking of people and things in general, which warns you to be on your guard, and weigh what you say. Now with Sir Walter I find that reserve is quite out of the question; as he seems to understand and laugh at all the minor tricks of society."

In lighter vein is a story concerning a child of the Marquis of Lothian, about three years old, who called everybody a "fat old goose." When the King came to visit the Marquis, the little boy was kept out of the way, but the King insisted on seeing all the children. Lady Lothian was pale with terror at this mishap, for the King, attracted by the comic countenance of the boy, immediately addressed him. But

"the Marquis seeing his mouth beginning to open, and well-knowing what would come forth, lifted him up and conveyed him out of the room, before he had uttered a syllable, to the

surprise of the King and the relief of the whole party, who were in the secret."

This of the original of *Dominie Sampson* is pleasing:—

"Last year he was tutor in Mr. Bembridge's family at Garton Moor; a very strange man (whose nose is twisted at the end by a windmill) fell in love with one of the young ladies, and wrote her a letter proposing an elopement: he applied to the *Dominie* to deliver it, who carried it a week in his pocket, and then gave it by mistake to the *Maiden Aunt*."

The editor has done his part well, but the volume might have been more accurate, and more fully provided with corrections. For Coplestone's 'Hints to Young Reviewers,' Copleston's 'Advice to a Young Reviewer,' with a Specimen of the Art' (Oxford, 1807), should be read. Capt. Hamilton did not write 'Mansie Waugh,' as might be pointed out (p. 275). "Peter Walker" (p. 268) was Patrick Walker, whose 'Six Saints of the Covenant,' including Peden, was admirably edited by Dr. Hay Fleming in 1901. The Christian name of Scott's first love was Williamina (p. 134). Mrs. Hughes ran to present to Sir Walter, then in his last days, a blackcock,

"knowing how *capacious* was the appetite of an invalid, and how much the circumstance of the bird coming from Scotland would make it welcome."

Surely the editorial intelligence ought to have made the word italicized into "capricious."

This is the kind of book to which readers will return for the best stories, and we are surprised and disappointed to find that it has no index to show us where they are.

The steady temper of Scott cannot be attributed to Thackeray; but these two volumes show that he was widely appreciated in the United States, and enjoyed himself a good deal, as he could hardly fail to do in a country which is famous for its admirable hospitality. His letters are delightfully easy and genial, and General Wilson has shown exemplary diligence in securing *Thackerayana*, the most attractive of which are the many sketches, careless in draughtsmanship, but always instinct with humour. There is, further, an extensive bibliography, by Mr. F. S. Dickson, of *Thackeray in the United States*, which is of importance, as the American editions represent in many cases earlier issues than the English.

But while in the publication of Thackeray's books the United States have the advantage of us, it would seem as if we had more general knowledge of the man in this country. For there is a great deal printed here in the way of *Thackerayana* which is familiar to the ordinary reader, and really does not seem to us worth reproduction. We find scraps of FitzGerald's letters, Miss Corkran's gossip and Mrs. Lynn Linton's, reminiscences by Sala, Charles Mackay, and many others, which are stale, reprints from magazine articles of no particular merit, a restatement of the Yates affair, &c. All this is not Thackeray in America so much as the general accretion of matter, much of it of inferior quality, which gathers round a famous man, and often clogs real issues. The enthusiasm which reproduces a book-plate with Thackeray's figure in its design and an ordinary address he wrote on a post-

card, is possibly inevitable where a collector and a classic are in question, but generally it is clear that these two volumes have been unduly extended. The effect is one of patchwork, and critical readers may be disappointed by perpetual quotations of other people's views. A man who undertakes to edit Thackeray should surely have some critical views of his own. Those offered from others lack subtlety and definiteness. Further, the editing of the book is indifferent. A sentence is omitted in the printed version of a letter given also in facsimile (ii. 4 and 6). In i. 76 Thompson's copy by Thackeray of the verses on Werther is reproduced in facsimile. On p. 101 they are given again in print on Dana's authority, with some interesting variants, but there is no reference to the former page. The celebrated "Adsum" passage is incorrectly given on p. 16, better on p. 91, but still not accurately; Mrs. Barbauld is misquoted on p. 17; "Remor" is not Latin at all (ii. 182). Perpetual repetitions are irritating; for instance, concerning the character Mrs. Brookfield sat for, and the novel Thackeray thought his best. Tennyson's verdict on "Pendennis" is given twice over (ii. p. 60 and p. 88), and he never won "the Newdigate" (p. 111), which is the Oxford prize poem. We cannot complain of passages necessary for American enlightenment, though they sometimes read oddly to us—as, for instance, the statement that the Garrick Club "was, I believe, frequented, or had been at one time, by actors." And American editions of English books are rather annoying for purposes of reference on this side the Atlantic. In so much borrowed matter it is occasionally difficult to find out what is quoted and what not. Thus the statement that "no editor of Lamb has thought it worth while to reproduce" a postscript of a letter to Barton of December 1st, 1824, is inaccurate to-day, since Mr. Macdonald's "Lamb" (1903), available both in England and America, has the addition in question. But the statement may be that of Mr. Lucas in 1901, who is referred to, though no inverted commas appear in the text to show if the words are his.

To our thinking, one volume strictly confined to the subject, and carefully arranged, would have been better. As it is, the Thackeray enthusiast in England will buy the book, grumble at it, and keep it for its better features. The six score illustrations can hardly fail to win his heart, and the new portraits of Thackeray are all of interest, especially his caricatures of himself, though we fancy that one of Lawrence's portraits will retain the general regard as the happiest picture of the man. The bibliography, as we have said, is exhaustive, indeed a wonderful piece of work, with a wealth of references to American articles on the subject.

Fragments of Prose and Poetry. By Frederic W. H. Myers. Edited by Eveleen Myers. (Longmans & Co.)

All who knew the late Frederic Myers, or who, knowing him not, yet recognized in him a rare and elect spirit, will find a singular interest in the volume of "Fragments of Prose and Poetry" which a pious

care has just put before them. This man may have been merely a dreamer of high dreams, or he may have been, as he himself believed, the fortunate student whose mission it was to point the way towards spiritual avenues of the future. In either event, nothing can be negligible which throws a light upon his psychology and upon those springs of passionate impulse which drove him to his arduous enterprise. The "Fragments of Prose and Poetry," with their frank revelation of the inmost heart, are the best commentary upon the vast structure of "Human Personality and its Survival of Bodily Death."

The contents of this book are miscellaneous in form, but one in the temper which interpenetrates them. There are poems, some reprinted from an early volume of 1870, others of later composition, for the author of "St. Paul" was a poet to the end of his days, though one dependent for his inspiration rather on the stimulus of immediate occasion than on the impersonal intention of the deliberate artist. If he is to be classed, it must be with the school of Wordsworth and of Matthew Arnold. There is the same restraint of manner, the same dominant mood of elegiac reflection, the same instinctive acceptance of natural beauty as the greatest of spiritual forces. But to Matthew Arnold's serenity, whether in gloom or joy, Myers adds a rather different note, a hint, here and there, of something strange, perturbing, and romantic. A single sonnet will serve as well as any longer body of extracts to illustrate this quality:—

FEROR INGENTI CIRCUMDATA NOCTE.

No sound or sight, no voice or vision came
When that fulfilled itself which was to be.—
The crash that whelmed mine inner world in flame,
And rolled its rivers backward from the sea.
Nay, many a fjeld and fjord of ancient name
Lay that long night without one sign for me;
Gudvangen, Vossevangen, slept the same,
And dream was on the woods of Oiloë.
Yet surely once thou camest! and the whole
Dark deep of heaven sighed thy tale to tell;
Lost like Eurydice's thy spirit stole
Wilder'd between the forest and the fell;—
Only mine eyes were holden, and my soul
Too roughly tuned to feel thy last farewell.

There are some obituary notices contributed to the *Proceedings of the Society for Psychical Research*, of which the most elaborate are minute and sympathetic psychological studies of two of his intimate friends and fellow-workers, Edmund Gurney and Henry Sidgwick. Of Sidgwick in particular he speaks with the enthusiasm of reverence and affection which that most Socratic and sincere of modern thinkers had a capacity for evoking. He compares him with the philosopher Maximus, of whom Marcus Aurelius said that "no man could even fancy he was despised by Maximus—or ever venture to think himself a better man."

The poems and the memorials of friendship make up the greater part of the bulk of the book, but they are only secondary in interest to the fifty-four pages of spiritual biography with which it begins. This, which has been in the hands of a small circle for a considerable time, is obviously printed in a mutilated form. There are omissions for which no doubt there was good and sufficient cause. There are insertions which, with the exception of a correspondence with George Eliot, illustrating

one of the most remarkable passages in Myers's "Essays," we cannot but think regrettable. As written by Myers, the document forms at once an *apologia* and a manifesto, an assertion of the "passionate affirmation of the will to live," the "importunate and overwhelming impulse," which lay at the heart of all his efforts, and a history of the stages through which he arrived, as he believed, by scientific methods, at a fresh logical basis for that enduring conviction of immortality which he found the tradition of Christianity inadequate by itself to support. Apart from its value as a psychological revelation, it is a beautiful piece of writing, informed with deep and exquisite feeling. Myers describes his childhood's home at Keswick, beneath the shadow of Skiddaw.

"It was in the garden of that fair Parsonage that my conscious life began. *Ver illud erat.* The memories of those years swim and sparkle in a haze of light and dew. The thought of Paradise is interwoven for me with that garden's glory;—with the fresh brightness of a great clump and tangle of blush roses, which hung above my head like a fairy forest, and made magical with their fragrance the sunny inlets of the lawn."

With delicate analysis he traces his own spiritual development in the light of the ultimate goal at which he was already unconsciously aiming, through the vivid reminiscences of the boy and the Hellenic ardours of the undergraduate, destined to the last to cling about his pen, through the unrest of a mind passing from Evangelical Christianity to agnosticism, and still profoundly dissatisfied, until the critical moment when a new hope dawned upon him, and, in spite of his repugnance "to re-entering by the scullery window the heavenly mansion out of which I had been kicked through the front door," he resolved "to spend all life's energy in beating against the walls of the prison house in case a panel anywhere might yield." The record of the investigations into the phenomena of dreams, trances, and other abnormal mental states which he undertook in company with Sidgwick and a few other eager and unconventional inquirers, and which lasted over some twenty years, is written in the pages of "Human Personality." To Myers, at least, the result appeared to be not wholly negative. He, as every page of this absorbing book shows, had the will to believe, and, whether it led him in logical ways or not, it at least provided him with a lofty and enduring ideal and a stimulus to patient and self-denying toil:—

"Be it mine, then, to plunge among the unknown Destinies, to dare and still to dare! Meantime the background of Eternity shows steadfast through all the pageants of the shifting world. This gives majesty to solitary landscapes, and to the vault of night; it urges me to go out and be alone; to pace in starlight the solemn avenues, and to gaze upon Arcturus with his sons."

These are the last words of a heroic and visionary soul.

Memorials of a Warwickshire Parish. By Robert Hudson. (Methuen & Co.) THIS posthumous work, patiently prepared by a resident of Lapworth who served the office of churchwarden for forty years, has

been issued by one of his sons, and was well worth giving to the public, apart from all questions of merely local interest or filial respect. Not so long ago parish annalists were few and far between, and required much urging to commit themselves to print. Nowadays the contrary is the case, and a check is rather required to prevent parochial writers, too slenderly equipped with the requisite knowledge, from issuing in a volume matter which is suited only for the pages of a parish magazine. But in a book such as this the antiquary will at once perceive that much good historic material, of exceptional value, has been, on the whole, well handled. It is not a local history of the more usual type, and does not profess to set out the whole of the annals of Lapworth, a picturesquely situated parish in the heart of the old Forest of Arden; but it is in the main an able digest and commentary on a store of local muniments, from the twelfth century downwards, which are still preserved in the parish church.

It was usual in early days to make good use of church chests as a general depository of documents of consequence. The advantage of this can easily be understood, for if the custodians of the church once undertook their charge, doubtless after payment of a fee, their removal became an act of sacrilege. Some two or three per cent. of our old parish churches still retain collections of ancient documents, such as manor court rolls and early evidences, many of which have no connexion whatever with church or charity lands. There are, for instance, large collections of this kind, which have been printed, at Repton, Derbyshire, and at Kingsthorpe, in Northamptonshire; and others are or were in the Staffordshire parish chests of Alrewas and Yoxall. But nowhere, save at Lapworth, so far as we are aware, does any parochial collection begin so early as the reign of Richard I. It is also unusual to meet with village collection that so completely illustrates successive periods of English deed-making, for out of the one hundred and twenty pre-Reformation deeds, almost every reign is exemplified from Richard I. to Henry VIII. Lapworth has an exceptionally large charity trust, with plots of land, mostly of pre-Reformation bequest, scattered about through the parish; but Mr. Hudson did not understand that it was superfluous to attempt to connect all church-deposited evidences with such gifts. One point is brought out, in the analysis of these documents, that is of much interest. Out of seventy-seven early deeds wherein the day of the week is mentioned, the large proportion of thirty were signed on a Sunday. Anything in the way of transfer of land was a serious undertaking, and Mr. Hudson is undoubtedly right in thinking that "advantage was often taken of the gathering of the people at church to have such deeds witnessed after service was over." This idea helps to account for the bringing together of a string of witnesses, seldom fewer than six or seven names, who attested such documents as these in a sparsely populated and widely scattered district such as this, and for the many others (*multi alii*) who are almost always mentioned at the end as being present at the sealing. It is probable that the weekdays when these Lapworth deeds were witnessed

would be found to be usually saints' days of some importance.

The earliest record, of which a facsimile is given, is a beautifully written grant, *temp. Richard I.*, of half a virgate of land with a dwelling-house thereon by Ralph Marshall, the lord of the manor, to one Geoffrey, at a rental of 2s. 6d. a year. In some comments on this grant, which are, for the most part, pertinent and interesting, Mr. Hudson makes the mistake of saying that the money rental does not represent the true value to the lord, as tenures under the lord were "always accompanied by some substantial services in the way of labour beyond the money payment." This was certainly not the case; customary services were not infrequently commuted for a money payment as early as the twelfth century, whilst the vast majority of lists of manorial tenants are divided between those who paid a standing rent (*redditus assisus*) and those whose obligations were wholly or in part represented by labour.

The first section of these early records, according to the arrangement here adopted, closes with the time of the Black Death of 1349. That Warwickshire at large suffered as terribly as almost every part of the country from that dread visitation has been shown by Abbot Gasquet from the clerical institutions of the county; and evidence has also been forthcoming of its dire results at Alcester, Wappenbury, and Wilmcott. Mr. Hudson points out that the rector and John-in-the-Lane, the chaplain of Lapworth, both died at this date; that Paul de Brome and John le Mareschal, whom the chaplain had enfeoffed immediately before his death, died immediately after him; and that the three brothers of the chaplain disappear at the same time. But beyond all this, the writer's careful study of the wealth of deeds about this period shows that various others of this small parish certainly died in the fateful year.

Mr. Hudson's vivid writing makes us realize the active, busy life led in this country parish from 1343 to 1349 by the chaplain John-in-the-Lane, who had evidently won the confidence and regard of the parishioners. There were generally, it appears, both a chaplain and a rector about this period. Mr. Hudson notes that "the chaplain was, of course, not like a modern curate, appointed by the rector and holding office during his pleasure, but had apparently a much more secure tenure." No reason is offered for such a supposition, and the fact is that parochial chaplains (except when they were chantry chaplains, and there was no chantry at Lapworth until 1374) of mediæval England were appointed at will by the incumbent. Mr. Hudson seems surprised that chaplains are so frequently mentioned in these parochial deeds and rectors so seldom, concluding that the former were more actively engaged in secular affairs. It is curious that he did not light upon the true reason. Lapworth, in all probability, was merely one of the majority of English rectories at that date; the rectors were more often than not absentees, or pluralists, and the real work was done by chaplains or curates. The proofs as to this being the rule rather than the exception are, unfortunately, overwhelming.

It is well known to all students of parish life that it was customary for churchwardens, as well as wardens of different guilds, to be possessed of cattle and sheep, &c., as stock to be held towards the discharge of church expenses. In most places such stock came to an end after the Reformation, when compulsory church rates came into being. But among the Elizabethan records of Lapworth are three copies of agreements relating to cows pertaining to the parish. One of these, of 1580, is given in facsimile, and is, we believe, the only one of its character that has been reproduced or printed. By this covenant the two churchwardens let out to one William Walton the profits of a cow of the value of 3s. 4d., "parcell of the goods and cattelles of the parishioners of Lapworth," at 16d. for the year. Later particulars as to parish cows are also given.

Subsequent chapters on the parish registers (beginning in 1561), on the overseers' accounts from 1688, and on the Lapworth charities, all have their local and general value. Any one making an *olla podrida* of quaint or interesting parochial scraps would find abundant material in these pages. Such are entries relative to payment of rent in woodcocks; the bequest, in 1527, of "a nambyng horse foole of a yere of ayg"; the mending of spinning-wheels; repairs of the stocks; 12s. 4d. for a wooden leg; 1s. 3d. for a child's "pinbefore"; sparrow-heads at 3d. and 4d. a dozen; and the immense outlay of 217. 11s. 6d. for black cloth to hang the pulpit, &c., on the death of George III. A feature of especial interest is an appendix which gives a carefully tabulated view for three hundred years of the various family names which occur in the registers.

The church of Lapworth is one of particular note in certain respects, and might with advantage have received rather fuller attention. The ground slopes away at the west end, and is just above the high road to Henley-in-Arden. When a tower and spire were added, they were consequently placed on the north side, at the east end of the north aisle. The most remarkable and exceptional feature of the church is a portico at the west end, which has a passage through its wide north and south doorways. It has had a groined roof, and over it is a parvise or upper room, which is gained by two narrow staircases in the walls. This double means of access has led to the not unlikely supposition that this chamber was used for the exposition of a certain relic or reliquary pertaining to the church, the visitors or pilgrims using one stairway for ingress and the other for egress. It is described in this book as a chantry chapel "founded by Richard de Montfort and others in 1374"; but the architecture points to the fifteenth century rather than the fourteenth. When the church was restored in 1872 by Street, an early window light was exposed over the north arcade near the east end, which had belonged to a former aisleless church. It is slightly splayed on the exterior, as well as deeply splayed within, and is probably Saxon, or at all events early Norman. The early fifteenth-century clearstory windows of the nave are exceptionally good, and there is interesting work of almost each architectural period. The

square low-side window on the south side of the chancel, the fine Elizabethan altar table, and several other noteworthy details deserve attention. It ought, however, to be remembered that the *raison d'être* of this volume is the wealth of local records, not an architectural survey.

The illustrations, plans, and facsimiles are admirable and entirely pertinent. We are glad to see a drawing of a small old circular deed-box, turned out of the solid oak; whilst a plan of Cleycroft, showing the survival of common-strip cultivation, and a photograph of an old boundary stone, marking the division of the land into "selions," are of high interest.

Only two hundred and fifty copies of this book, which is well printed and produced, are for sale; it will be strange if they are long in the market.

By Nile and Euphrates. By H. Valentine Geere. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.)
The Resurrection of Oldest Egypt. By Canon Rawnsley. (Beaver Press.)

IN 1895 Mr. Valentine Geere was appointed by the University of Pennsylvania to assist Dr. Haynes in the excavations that he had for some time been carrying on unaided at Nippur, in Babylonia. He accordingly set out with a fellow-assistant, Mr. John Duncan, and they travelled with some difficulty—being entirely new to Asia—to Nippur, only to find themselves ordered back again by Dr. Haynes, whose nerves had apparently given way under the double strain of solitude and the tribal wars of the Arabs. The next year found Mr. Geere at Behneseh, in Lower Egypt, where he was in time to see Prof. Petrie hand over this site, with its rich and then unsuspected stock of Greek papyri, to Dr. Grenfell and Dr. Hunt, and to take charge of some excavations at Bahsamun for the first-named explorer. In 1898 he met Dr. Haynes at Marseilles, and returned with him to Nippur, where the expedition was completed the following year by the arrival of Dr. Hilprecht as "archæological expert." After excavations lasting a year and a half, the mounds were closed down, and Mr. Geere returned to England, the rest of the expedition making their way back to America.

It will be seen, therefore, that Mr. Geere has had a most respectable experience as an explorer in the cause of learning, and that he writes with first-hand knowledge of his subject. He is insistent in his praise of Prof. Petrie's method of working, and quotes with approval a remark of M. de Morgan that he regarded Prof. Petrie as "the finest excavator in the world." But he does not conceal the quarrels and bickering that made the earlier years of the American Expedition to Babylonia notorious, nor the injury that has been done to learning by the haphazard way in which it conducted its work. On the arrival of Prof. Hilprecht all this, we read, was changed, and he seems to have had the gift of communicating his zeal and accuracy to his subordinates. Yet Mr. Geere confesses that the Arab workmen employed were none too well fitted for their task, and he sighs more than once over the much greater deeds that the expedition might

have accomplished had it had at its disposal some of the *fellahin* trained by Prof. Petrie. He throughout warns us, however, of the difference between archæological work in a settled country like Egypt, where life and property are safe, and in the Land-between-the-rivers, where Turkish misrule has increased the native lawlessness of the Arabs, and seekers after antiquities have to dread alike the exactions of the Turkish officials and the violence of the wandering tribes. In spite of an armed guard; two huge boarhounds, who proved as efficient as the guard in keeping off marauders; and a house built like a fortress, the American Expedition was more than once fairly driven off the ground, and Mr. Geere narrowly escaped having his brains blown out in an Arab boat on the Euphrates. As Prof. Hilprecht has described the scientific results of his work in his book 'Explorations in Bible Lands' (see *Athenæum*, September 19th, 1903), and Prof. Petrie his in 'Deshasheh' (*ibid.*, April 9th, 1898), the author will probably be excused for dwelling more on such episodes than on the work to which he rendered loyal assistance.

The space thus saved, however, has enabled Mr. Geere to write one of the most amusing books of travel in the East that we have read for some time. All the varied incidents of the journey by water and land from Baghdad to Nippur and back are described with quiet zest and unforced humour, and so careful is he about details that the book might almost be used as a guide for the road. Of the people that he met on the way he has, as a rule, nothing but good to say, and it appears that even Turkey has produced one good official in the person of Rayif Pasha, then Governor of Aleppo, under whom the peasants of the neighbourhood became not only well off, but well dressed, while his *zaptiehs* and other officials were so regularly paid that they did not try to extort backsheesh. Yet our author laments the absence of interest which England displays in the country, and says that everywhere German influence is now supreme, and that soon only Germans will be able to carry on the search for antiquities which began with Layard. To remedy this he advocates the formation of a fund to do for Mesopotamia what the Egypt Exploration Fund has done for Egypt; but it is doubtful whether we are not already too late.

Certainly Abu Hatab and Fara, the two sites which he recommends for exploration by Englishmen, have already been handed over to Germans under the all-embracing firman secured from the Sultan by the Kaiser. That this state of things is likely to get worse instead of better when the German-built Baghdad Railway is opened there can be little doubt, and Mr. Geere's tales of German imitation of English trade-marks are hardly needed to convince us that it is a monopoly of trade as well as of antiquities which is in view. On these and all other subjects Mr. Geere is well worth reading.

Though the other book bears Canon Rawnsley's name on the title-page, by far the most interesting part of it is the first half, by his son, Mr. Noel Rawnsley, which is, in effect, a sketch of the daily life in Prof. Petrie's excavation camp at Abydos. It gives a moving picture of the minor dis-

comforts of camp life, including a grumble at having to eat porridge, biscuits, and tinned meat for breakfast, while others are indulging in eggs and other luxuries—which seems to throw some light on the school-breakfast controversy lately raging in the newspapers—and shows also the difficulty of dealing with the natives. One is, perhaps, rather astonished to find that an antiquity dealer, in whose "bulging bag you may find something you want," is allowed to visit excavation camps, and that the work sometimes included the throwing down of "an ancient wall." Also we get a glimpse of the somewhat slender foundation on which many Egyptological theories are based, when we read that, "knowing the dynasty to which a certain shape of pot belonged, it became possible to tell at once the times in which the wall that covered it was built." The most frantic partisan of "sequence-dates" has not yet contended that the fashion in pots changed in Egypt with every dynasty; and if this is all that the excavators had to depend upon, it is plain that they must often have gone very wrong in their dating. For the rest, Mr. Rawnsley writes with a fresh and hearty appreciation of the delights as well as of the drawbacks of life in the desert, and his remarks on the difficulty of forming any idea of the general design of the sand-buried buildings on which he was engaged should prove useful to intending explorers.

The second part of the book, by the nominal author of the whole, was at first sight a puzzle. Canon Rawnsley seems to have been inspired by a visit or two to the Egypt Exploration Fund's annual exhibition in Gower Street to write of Prof. Petrie's doings at Abydos in such lyrical phrase as the following:—

"The old temples of Abydos refused to listen to the sound of harper or flute-player in the days when Osirian mysteries went forward: but there is an older burial-ground beyond the temples, where to-day the triumphant song of the explorer is loud, and the mysteries of the resurrection of Egypt's oldest kings go forward to such historic harmonies as were seldom before heard."

As he tells us on another page that "patient, peace-loving Prof. Petrie" has "virtually redated Greek civilization," we may hope that these historic harmonies may not be heard again. Later we are told that Prof. Petrie's discovery at Ballas of the New or Neolithic race—which, by the way, he referred to an interval between the fourth and twelfth dynasties—led Canon Rawnsley to expect that Prof. Petrie would "yet be able to report of a chapter in Egyptian history which would make the first-dynasty king a kind of comparatively modern being," and we gather that, in his opinion, this curious report has now been made. This is the more extraordinary because it was M. Amélineau and not Prof. Petrie who first discovered the early remains at Abydos. It was he who unearthed and published the inscriptions of such of the first-dynasty kings as have absolutely been identified with those in Manetho's lists, and he has never ceased to complain that his concession was, as he alleges, taken from him and handed over to Prof. Petrie before he had finished his work upon it. Astonishment deepens when we

read that when Canon Rawnsley visited the exhibition in question his eyes

"went at once to the little bit of crystal vase which bore the name of Mena; for now I seemed to feel myth fade away, and the real king, who drank from a crystal goblet to the success of the city of Memphis, the city he had built in fair fields, from which he had turned the great Nile flood, seemed to stand before me."

For the little bit of crystal vase, as may be seen in the Egypt Exploration Fund's 'Royal Tombs,' Part 1, does not bear the name of Mena at all, but only that of Aha, and was not discovered by Prof. Petrie, but, as there stated, bought by him, perhaps from some of the dealers who, *testis* Mr. Noel Rawnsley, hang about his camp.

The explanation of all this is, doubtless, that although the hands may be those of Canon Rawnsley, the voice is that of Prof. Petrie. In other words, Canon Rawnsley, who seems to have no special knowledge of his subject other than that afforded by a few trips to Egypt, has preferred, instead of forming his own opinions, to listen to Prof. Petrie's voluminous theories. He has supplied laudatory adjectives to nearly every substantive, and indulged in much apostrophic admiration of Prof. Petrie and his works. We must say that we prefer the Professor's energetic, if sometimes slipshod, English at first hand. The book is, we understand, printed (partly in colours), illustrated, and bound by amateurs. We have seldom seen one more creditably turned out, and the very moderate price awakes some suspicion of the extent of trade profits in the arts here employed.

NEW NOVELS.

A Daughter of Jael. By Lady Ridley. (Longmans & Co.)

This is a long, closely-knit story, written with care and sincerity, and innocent of offence of any kind, literary or otherwise. Also it has an interesting plot, and its characters have life and being, their development being consistent and intelligent. Altogether, this is a good and praiseworthy novel. Described baldly, it is the tale of a woman who, while yet quite a girl, commits deliberate murder, and, despite the winning of a very fair share of happiness in after life, suffers a good deal by way of retribution. For committing crime her motives were unselfish and loving. But it was murder, and, though never detected, it entailed its penalties of anguish and remorse. The conclusion is not wholly satisfactory. The author misses a fine opportunity of meting out poetic justice, by not allowing her heroine to be suspected of the second crime. Here, though technically innocent, she might well have been made to pay in full for both moral and technical guilt. There was also another possible ending. The drawing of country-house life in this book is pleasing and graphic.

The Sea Wolf. By Jack London. (Heinemann.)

This is easily the best piece of work which Mr. London has done. Its faults are robust faults; its merits are positive,

generous, outstanding. It is an adventurous tale, full of incident and movement, compact of ingeniously contrived situations, and containing much first-hand knowledge of the sea. Withal, it is throughout an almost entirely consistent study of character, and of notable character. Its opening suggests 'Captains Courageous,' and Mr. London owes a good deal to the writer of 'McAndrew's Hymn' in most of his work. But it need not be supposed that this story is imitative. It is not. It deals with the lives of those who hunt the seal in forbidden waters—men who rate but one thing lighter than their own lives, and that, the lives of others. Among such fellows as these, an American man of letters finds himself suddenly flung by the merest chance. They pick him up at sea, utterly exhausted, one of the victims of a collision between two steamers near San Francisco. The captain of the seal-hunters, Wolf Larsen, is the central figure of the tale: a man of extraordinary strength, physical and mental, and of remorseless, unmitigated ferocity. To the last page, his character is unfolded with admirable consistency. His figure is a credit to the author. One fears a softening toward the close of the book, when a feminine element is introduced, but it does not come. The author is tempted at times to air scholarly attainments, and then he is mischievously misled. But in dealing with rough men and their rough work he is admirable. His chief fault is a tendency to exaggeration, a sort of riotous rejoicing in his own virility and enthusiasm. Then his central figure makes one think of Bret Harte's Rawjester.

For Love and Honour. By William Macleod Raine. (Isbister & Co.)

MR. RAINES's is a slight, agreeable romance of the '45. For a romancer he takes himself too seriously, with his formal acknowledgment of "obligations to the letters of Horace Walpole," and his explanatory "ear" in brackets, after the phrase "A flea in his lug." Acknowledgments not made are due to Stevenson, for many phrases in this story, and for the style in which it is written. For his facts Mr. Raine is under no obligation to any one. They have been common property these many years. There is nothing new about this tale, either in manner or matter. The author follows established tradition with the most consistent respect. But his work is pleasant, none the less, and has the kind of atmosphere which many readers like in their fiction at this season of the year. He has lavished a great deal of sentiment, and some thought no doubt, upon his portrait of an eighteenth-century rake. His sympathies, one need hardly say, are entirely with the party of Prince Charlie.

Little Blue Pigeon. By A. G. Hales. (Hutchinson & Co.)

MR. HALES has clearly chosen to join the company of the book-makers, rather than the more select society of those who think and write books. His present story about Japan is a rattling, sensational narrative, not without merit, for its movement is swift,

and its incidents many. But it is without characterization. Despite the fact that the author knows foreign lands, he has not learnt to convey knowledge of them, or this book does not show that he has. Its scene might almost as well have been laid in England, or in any other country. It has no atmosphere; its characters are puppets. But of its class it is a lively specimen.

Vanessa. By Constantine Ralli. (Cassell & Co.)

THE name of Swift's ill-fated friend was, we are given to understand, intentionally bestowed by the author upon his heroine; but we must confess ourselves unable to discover any possible analogy between that heroine and the heartless, mercenary egotist who marries one man for a home and becomes the mistress of another for money. None of Mr. Ralli's would-be sympathetic characters appeals to us, and his villains, though colossal in point of wickedness, never really take hold upon our imagination. The background is chiefly American, the time some indefinite period in the future, the theme the abuse of trusts and the growing discontent of the masses, culminating at last in a general reign of terror, which more than once recalls Mr. Shiel and the yellow danger. But the picturesque and vivid touch by which this last-named author can lend credibility to things is not to be found here.

The Man at Odds: a Story of the Welsh Coast and the Severn Sea. By Ernest Rhys. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE least unpleasant man in this story of a locality rather than of definite persons is Fibus, an old salt. A runaway boy shows a few redeeming characteristics throughout a series of such scenes as piratical smugglers and their allies—mostly treacherous—and their foes experienced in and about the Bristol Channel, in the fatal year 1745. Skipper Rounce had been captain of a fine East Indiaman, belonging to the Bristol Trading Company; but having become the victim of gross injustice, he betakes himself with characteristic thoroughness to smuggling and the absorption of French brandy. The latter habit makes him repulsive to the reader, in spite of his wrongs, his seamanship, and his thoroughness. We get glimpses of a lady who reminds Rounce of his long-lost love, of one of "Heaven's pirates"—an open-air preacher, and of an anachronistic "tracarian vicar." Mr. Rhys announces his purpose of trying "to realize frankly" the state of affairs in the western haunts of our old naval heroes when one John Rounce elected himself King of Lundy. We think he has succeeded fairly well; at any rate, he has lucidly depicted, without much dialect, a barbarous phase of the strenuous life.

Falaise of the Blessed Voice: a Tale of the Youth of St. Louis, King of France. By William Stearns Davis. (Macmillan & Co.)

The tale of how the young king and his wife used to meet on the back stairs between their rooms in the Castle of Pontoise, ready

to hurry back to solitary propriety at the first sound of his mother's coming, and the sight of the secret passages with which the town is honeycombed even to-day, were sure to inspire a novelist sooner or later. Mr. Davis has caught the inspiration, and tells a good story simply, while the picture of the emancipation of Louis from his masterful mother's rule is well conceived. But he should not date from Harvard University a book which shows complete ignorance of what constitutes a valid marriage in Canon Law. His plot turns on a purposely contrived flaw in St. Louis's marriage, the flaw being that the bishop says "non jungo" for *conjungo*. "What the bishop said" was just as important in determining the validity of a marriage as what the beggar at the door said—that is, of no importance whatever, though, of course, he was liable to severe ecclesiastical censure. The parties to the marriage were the ministers of the sacrament, according to mediaeval theory, and the marriage would have been equally valid if there had been no bishop or ecclesiastical person there at all, as long as the parties, being able to contract a marriage with each other, did so in good faith. The account of the Feast of the Ass makes a first-rate opening to the book; but, if we remember rightly, that used to happen early in January, while the story is one of summer.

The Soldier of the Valley. By Nelson Lloyd. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

THIS is a very fair specimen of a school of American fiction well known in this country. The scene is laid in an outlying township, remote from railways and towns. The soldier of the title is a young man who has travelled far, in books of history and adventure, but in the flesh has known only his native township, until the outbreak of war between Spain and America calls to him, and he fares abroad to fight for his country. After half a year he returns to the little valley village that is home to him, minus one leg, but enriched by a deal of experience and some little knowledge of the outside world. Naturally, there is a girl in the valley township who is unlike all other girls. She, too, knows something of the outside world. The love-making is deftly managed upon rather novel lines. It concerns three men and a woman, and, incidentally, deals convincingly with the sincere love which may bind one brother to another. It is a pleasant, wholesome story.

Traitor and Loyalist. By Henry Kitchell Webster. (New York, the Macmillan Company.)

THIS is a very different type of American story from Mr. Lloyd's, but one of a class almost as well known in England, dealing with the war between North and South in America. There have been great wars in which conscience and conviction were not prominent, so far as the actual combatants were concerned, but in the American war these elementary forces played so vital a part that father and son were not infrequently driven to take up arms upon opposite sides. Here, then, without looking further, is drama made to the hand of the

novelist. The field has already been pretty thoroughly tilled, though it may not have found the historian it deserves in fiction. Mr. Webster's contribution is a workman-like and sincere piece of writing; not at all a great or inspired story, but interesting, showing care and genuine study of character.

SPORTING LITERATURE.

Partridge Driving. Some Practical Hints on increasing and preserving a Stock of Birds and on bringing them over the Guns, with a Description of the "Euston System." By Charles E. A. Allington. (Murray.)

Stalking Sketches. By Capt. H. Hart-Davis. (Horace Cox.)

Fifty Leaders of British Sport: a Series of Portraits. By Ernest C. Elliott. With Biographical Notes and a Preface by F. G. Afalo. (Lane.)

My Sporting Holidays. By Sir Henry Seton-Karr, Bart. (Arnold.)

CIRCUMSTANCES have combined to exclude as antiquated former methods of partridge shooting, and to encourage driving as the best means of bringing the birds to bag. New methods of farming, whereby little stubble is left; land thrown out of cultivation and heavily grazed, with accompanying disturbance; and perhaps, above all, the better shooting required, have resulted in establishing driving more firmly year by year in the favour of sportsmen. As the system extends even to districts which seemed unsuitable, experience is gained, the records of which, if carefully kept and judiciously used, cannot fail to be of value to the numerous persons interested in the sport. Mr. Charles Allington's book fulfils these conditions, and is therefore welcome. It is "divided into two parts. The first deals with the increase and preservation of partridges, and the second with the art of driving them over the guns."

Now increase in numbers is necessary, because much partridge country does not carry enough head for driving purposes; partly because the breeding stock is insufficient, partly on account of losses arising from want of preservation. On these subjects the author's remarks are sound, and they are supplemented by useful hints on breeding and rearing.

The management of driving is far from an easy matter, and those who merely improvise a drive during a day's shooting because they cannot get near the birds must not be surprised, nor rashly jump to the conclusion that driving does not suit their land, if failure result. Many trials and much thought are needed before success can be attained; and study of Mr. Allington's book, due allowance being made for the variety of conditions prevailing in different parts of the country, will lead to that desirable result. He justly says:—

"To some shooters the following out of any elaborate system seems to make a toil out of a pleasure, and yet to show birds to the best advantage requires much time and thought in the organization of a day's shooting, and if this is a success, the pleasure derived is out of all proportion to the amount of trouble taken to ensure it. It may be urged that this is making a day's shooting too much of a business, and some people say that they go out for pleasure, implying that those who try to manage their shooting to the best advantage do not. If lunch and a good opportunity for long conversations with one's friends are the chief objects of the day, with a little partridge driving before and after, well and good: to those who prefer to utilize their shooting in this way the following chapters will have no interest."

These remarks show the commendable spirit in which the book is written; its type and general appearance are satisfactory.

More picturesque than partridge lands,

though affording pleasure to fewer people, are the surroundings of stags in the forests of Scotland. These are excellently represented in 'Stalking Sketches,' a reprint of articles contributed to the *Field*, illustrated by the author's drawings, which for the most part have considerable artistic merit. The articles justify republication, being pleasantly written and full of sound advice. They comprise dissertations on the forest and sanctuary, the stalker, and on personal equipment, the most important part of which is naturally the rifle. Capt. Hart-Davis remarks:—

"The introduction of the modern small bores firing cordite or some similar explosive, has effected quite a revolution in the matter of rifles, so much so that the .303, the Mannlicher and the Mauser may almost be said to have banished from our home forests the Express rifles, .400, .450, and .500, that have so long held the field unchallenged. Nor is the reason far to seek, for first and foremost the sound of the explosion is enormously reduced..... Secondly, the heavy recoil is entirely done away with; and thirdly, the rifle is not only lighter to carry, but is in addition more effective against our soft-skinned and soft-bodied beasts than the old weapons."

The volume is attractively got up, and should please many besides deer-stalkers.

Another well-turned-out book, whose illustrations and text are printed on specially made paper, is entitled 'Fifty Leaders of British Sport.' The first portrait is, appropriately, that of the King, and is followed by one of the Prince of Wales—both admirable likenesses. After them the list is naturally open to criticism, many persons whose names do not appear being as eminent in the world of sport as those selected. Indeed, this is recognized in the preface, wherein it is pointed out that the omission of the definite article precludes any suggestion of invidious comparison. That is so to some extent, and before exception is taken the difficulties of selection should be considered; in some cases the exploits of our best men were achieved beyond the limits of the British Empire, as, for example, those of Mr. St. George Littledale and Mr. F. C. Selous with the rifle; moreover, many eminent sportsmen who dislike publicity would decline to sanction the inclusion of their names. Allowing for such reasons, we think the representatives well chosen, whilst their portraits are characteristic, the skill with which the accessory landscapes are introduced being worthy of commendation.

Though his name is not included in the above list, Sir Henry Seton-Karr has shot and fished successfully in many parts of the world, and in 'My Sporting Holidays' he brings together a selection of incidents which have befallen him in the course of some thirty years. A few of the stories have already appeared in print, but the greater part of the book is new, its object, according to Sir Henry, being to amuse rather than to instruct his readers. That purpose is attained, the stories being pleasantly written, with appreciation of the humour of sorts which accompanied events. The scenes are laid in Norway, Scotland, and in Western America, the game including elk, reindeer, red deer, wapiti, salmon, and trout. There is an interesting description of life as it was twenty years ago on a large cattle ranch, with incidents both tragic and comic. Of the latter the purchase, in the chief dry-goods store of Caspar, by one Bill Nokes, of a "clock for a friend who was about to get married" is a sample:—

"The storekeeper was displaying his goods, and especially recommended most strongly a particular eight-day clock. The following conversation took place:—

"There," said the storekeeper, "is a clock that will go eight days without winding."

"The blank it will!" replied Bill. "How long will it go if I do wind it?" and he affected not to understand the general laughter of the bystanders at his remark."

The chapter on sporting rifles and their

use is worth careful consideration by purchasers; they must, however, recollect that the science of rifle and bullet making is eminently progressive, while sportsmen are apt from success achieved with particular patterns to prefer them to modern improvements. The illustrations of the book are good.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Prisoner of Carisbrooke, by Sidney Herbert Burchell (Gay & Bird), has for its central episode the flight of Charles I. from Hampton Court to the Isle of Wight, and his safe detention there in 1647-8 by Col. Robert Hammond, despite the intrigues of the governor's Royalist wife. The author has evidently studied the history of the period with praiseworthy industry, and his narrative conveys a picture of it which is substantially true. But in a prefatory note he acknowledges "one or two intentional departures from fact," and that he has not followed his hero's personal history closely, except in regard to the Carisbrooke part of his career. More, we think, is in reality known about Hammond than the "little" of which Mr. Burchell is aware. However, he has elaborated in him a highly interesting character-study of a man to whom conscience and humanity are more than king and parliament, or even religion, but who is sadly weak in the hands of women. Scarborough, the miserly old uncle, is hardly so convincing, but is boldly drawn. Mr. Burchell is most audaciously free with historical personages, Cromwell in particular (surely not long-winded enough), and the king, who is given a constant stutter. Scarcely less ambitious and decidedly more effective are his portraits of the mysterious Lady Carlisle and the turbulent pamphleteer-soldier John Lilburne. The author evinces some power in his love scenes, and has, on the whole, shown ability to create a sense of atmosphere. But, despite all his knowledge, his dialogue smacks of to-day, and he is too fond of certain Carlylese tricks of narrative.

My Sword's my Fortune, by Herbert Hayens (Collins), does not belie the promise of its title and its alluring cover. It is a tale of the Fronde, full of stirring incident, and reflecting not inadequately some aspects of the spirit of the time. The hero does yeoman service for Cardinal Mazarin, is imprisoned in the Bastille for an attempt upon the life of Condé, really made by his cousin, and ultimately rewarded by regaining his family estates. Perhaps the best thing in the book is the resourceful dwarf, Pillon, but the historical characters, Mazarin, Turenne, and Condé, are by no means lacking in *vraisemblance*, whilst we get tempting glimpses of young Louis XIV., the intriguing coadjutor of Paris, and D'Artagnan. The weak point of the story as an historical romance is the subordinate rôle assigned to the women, who were, in sober fact, actors of little less importance than the Cardinal, De Retz, and Monsieur le Prince. The (perhaps intentional) attenuation of the love interest is, indeed, as remarkable as the peculiarity of the paging in this volume. Mr. Tilney's illustrations are very passable.

Whatever may be thought of the taste shown in depicting a William Tell who describes himself as a "pothunter," willing to be summoned by postcard for the defence of his country, and a Gessler who imposes taxes on lemonade and mixed biscuits, there can be no doubt that *William Tell Told Again*, by P. G. Wodehouse (A. & C. Black), is a spirited version of an old tale which will not injure the reputation of the hero in the eyes of a schoolboy. It is William Tell in the land of comic opera; but, thanks to the hearty humour of the narrator, we are persuaded to enjoy the

new environment, the spirit of which has been well caught in Mr. Philip Dadd's illustrations.

A pleasant and at the same time informative collection of stories for children concerning wild animal life is *Rataplan, a Rogue Elephant, and other Stories* (Ward, Lock & Co.), by Ellen Velvin, F.Z.S. It is full of incident set forth in lucid and intelligent fashion, and if no especial charm of manner can be claimed for it, it is entirely free from false sentiment and affectation. The best of the tales is 'Siccate, the Squirrel,' partly because of the salutary little moral lesson it conveys. "Evil is wrought by want of thought as well as want of heart" is a maxim that should, so to speak, be "rubbed in" occasionally where the youthful mind is concerned, and the author has performed her task with tact. There is no discernible powder in her preserve. The coloured illustrations, by Gustave Verbeek, are clever and well reproduced.

Miss Myrtle Reed, who is the author of 'Love Letters of a Musician' and 'Lavender and Old Lace,' books which carry upon their face a sugared and sentimental expression, has turned her attention to farce in *The Book of Clever Beasts* (Putnam's Sons). She describes her work as "Studies in Unnatural History"; and to judge from the excellent absurd illustrations by Mr. Newell, it is probably designed for children. American children seem to have other tastes than children on this side of the Atlantic. This is a facetious book such as no right-minded child would delight in. The opening story tells jocularly how a mouse communicated with a man by the Morse code, managed to contrive the death of a cat, and committed suicide. The following is a fair example of the lady's style: "What do you take me for? Do you want to starve me to death? Can't you get rid of that blanked cat?" We cannot believe that child or adult will care for this farrago. And yet the author seems to take herself very seriously, as she dedicates her book to "Lovers of Truth everywhere," and offers a bibliography, so that we may see what authorities she has consulted. The last seems unimpeachable; but the pity is that a perusal of the books did not prevent this venture.

In what is called by a convenient abbreviation "The 52 Series" (Hutchinson) we have *Stories of Grit and Character for Boys*, a similar volume for Girls, and a third of *Wild Life, East and West*. Mr. A. H. Miles has secured authors galore, old and new, for these collections, which are sure of popularity. In fact, in all these three sets of stories, as numerous as a pack of cards, there are many trumps.

We are of opinion that the average modern girls' school, though an interesting place to its inhabitants, does not abound in sensations of the kind depicted by L. T. Meade in *A Modern Tomboy* (Chambers). It is scarcely usual for distinguished university professors to undertake even joint charge of such establishments, and in these days of examinations and athletics schoolgirls have little superabundant energy to bestow upon the elegant diversions of putting hedgehogs in each other's beds, or climbing out of their windows at night. Frankly, we believe neither in the *Flibbertigibbit Irene* nor in her tamer Rosamond, nor yet in the spoil-sport Lucy, though the most natural of the three. To the present reviewer the author's gifts lie in the direction of the romantic rather than the real, and the story, attractive and original in spite of its improbability, serves to confirm this judgment.

A Family Grievance, by Raymond Jacobens (Wells Gardner, Darton & Co.), deals in a humorous, but sympathetic spirit with the trials of six children, compelled by an ill turn

of fortune to migrate from their ancestral hall to a seaside villa, where they and their cherished belongings are forced compressed into painfully small compass. All, however, are soon reconciled to the change. Even the eldest girl, though persisting longest in her rebellion against fate, is converted by the example of a still poorer friend, whose heroic resignation to a tea-table daily furnished with that delicacy known to housekeepers as "cooking-butter" excites, as well it may, respectful enthusiasm. The sketches of family life are varied, as regards the girls, with some of those bright and natural school scenes characteristic of this author, and the story, though rather weak in point of construction, can throughout be read with pleasure.

In his preface to *The Princess of Balkh* (Blackie) Mr. Michael Macmillan has with rare conscientiousness explained exactly which elements are historical and which fictitious in this tale of the wars of Aurungzebe. As a resident in India of many years' standing and the author of stories on themes drawn from Indian history which have attained the honour of translation into various native dialects, he possesses undeniable qualifications for such a task as the present, and we feel rather guilty because so much painstaking scholarship fails in stirring us to any warm enthusiasm. Perhaps it would need the genius of a Scott to give life to the subject selected (the adventures of a Jacobite exile in Central Asia), and, unhappily, the only resemblance to Scott is in the character of the heroine. But the judgment of elder people is no criterion for that of the young, and the book may well be popular with boys and girls at school, who will find their knowledge of geography thereby much enlarged.

Christmas-Tree Land, by Mrs. Molesworth (Macmillan), is this year, as we learn from the title-page, reprinted for the sixth time, a sufficient guarantee of the popularity which it has deservedly attained. Something of the charm of Kingsley's 'Water-Babies,' or even of Grimm and Hans Andersen, lingers about this graceful modern fairy-tale, and is enhanced by Mr. Walter Crane's admirably appropriate illustrations. The reviewer well remembers being haunted, at an earlier date than the first publication of Mrs. Molesworth's story, by the beatific vision of a grove of lighted Christmas trees, and the pleasant surprise of afterwards finding this ideal here embodied in print. Such power in divining the bright fancies of childhood is indeed a precious gift for the story-teller.

In *The Blue Baby, and other Stories* (Chambers), on the contrary, Mrs. Molesworth is scarcely at her best. We cannot help feeling that she has hampered herself by paying undue regard to the manipulation of "morals," which, like facts, are stubborn things, and have an awkward way, when allowed free development, of sometimes working out on the wrong side. As honourable exceptions, unblemished by any obvious attempt to show the good triumphant, we may mention the title-story and 'A Remarkable Chicken.' The other tales have some pretty and lifelike touches, but do not reach a high level artistically, and one of them, 'Nesta,' is disfigured by a needlessly tragic conclusion.

A Bunch of Keys, also published by Messrs. Chambers, written by Margaret Johnson, and illustrated by Jessie Walcott, is a series of tales told by various members of the Key family. We like the idea of the thumb-nail pictures interspersed in the letterpress; it gives an added charm to the story, and will certainly help to hold the attention of the little ones. Messrs. Chambers send two other books, very different in general style and get-up, *Buster Brown and his Resolutions*, and

Foxy Grandpa. These are books of large dimensions, and contain some thirty-two pages each of coloured illustrations, telling their own story, with the help of an occasional commentary in the letterpress. We cannot wonder at the popularity which the first of these, 'Buster Brown and his Resolutions,' by R. F. Outcault, has attained in the States—it is brimful of ingenuity and fun, but the practical joking is of so mischievous a nature that one doubts the advisability of its indiscriminate introduction into some homes. In America Buster Brown's pranks may be "simply records of the usual everyday happenings in any healthy household"; we venture to doubt it, though, and prefer to think of him as an exceptional rather than a typical boy. 'Foxy Grandpa,' by Bunny, is a dear old fellow, whose fun and frolic keep one constantly amused. His mischievous grandchildren find it very hard to out-maneuvre him, in fact he generally manages to turn the tables on them. This clever book can be heartily recommended as a Christmas present—young and old will find it entertaining.

Mr. Punch's Gift-Book (Bradbury & Agnew) is an admirable collection of stories and quaint pictures, which will help to while away many a dull winter's afternoon in the nursery.—Animal stories are readily accepted and appreciated by little folk of all ages, and *True Stories about Animals*, by Edith Carrington, published by Messrs. Blackie, is a particularly interesting collection of real anecdotes.—As for *My Book of Nursery Rhymes*, from the same publishers, to say that it is illustrated by John Hassall is sufficient guarantee for its excellence.

"*God our Saviour,*" *Pictures and Verses illustrating the Life of our Blessed Saviour* (Mowbray & Co.), reaches a higher level than many works of this character; indeed, we have rarely found the subject more attractively dealt with.

When in conjunction with pictures by Mr. Louis Wain we have verses by Mr. Clifton Bingham, success is assured. And, in fact, one of the best of the season's books for children is *Claws and Paws* (Collins & Sons). Puss and Pup are seen in every possible situation—in the nursery, at school, in the orchard, and so on through a whole gamut of experiences, which most little people have at one time or another themselves shared, and which Mr. Wain depicts inimitable fashion.

There is a wealth of originality in all Mr. Jack Yeats's productions. *The Bosun and the Bob-tailed Comet*, published by Mr. Elkin Mathews, has no redundant line in either letterpress or pictures; the whole is permeated with an artistic reticence, and the old-time woodcuts are quaint, even bizarre, though one is inclined to wonder whether the juvenile public will appreciate them as their elders undoubtedly will.

In *The Golden Heart, and other Fairy Stories* (Heinemann), Mrs. Violet Jacob shows a really poetic imagination. Her stories are charmingly conceived and well expressed, and yet even so she seems to fall a little short of the much-loved old-fashioned standard. Perhaps it is the quality of simplicity which is lacking, whilst a new element of pretty, but more complicated sentiment, better suited to mature than to childish comprehension, has crept in. Yet Mrs. Jacob makes excellent use of some of the conventional features of the fairy tale. Birds and beasts, witches and sorcerers, are all called to the help or hindrance of damsels in distress, and of kings and princes who rescue them. Perhaps the most attractive tale in this volume is that of the little French dwarf Grimaçon, who may recall a very old favourite of less amiable temperament. The book is prettily illustrated, and nicely got up in a manner to attract children.

Mr. Biddle and the Dragon, written and illustrated by Edith Farmiloe (Skeffington), deserves special commendation. The author evidently knows the cockney life with which her story is concerned, and her illustrations are delightful.

It was certainly a happy thought that has resulted in the publication in popular and inexpensive form of the shorter *Fairy Tales of George Mac Donald* (Arthur C. Fifield), for amid the multiplicity of children's books with which the press teems year by year there is but little to stimulate the imagination. Indeed, children are being written down to nowadays as immoderately as, in the past, their especial fiction was written above their heads—which is just as bad, and tends, perhaps, even more to atrophy of all thought and feeling. With many children, as with a few of their elders, Hawthorne's words stand for truth, "The unsubstantial shadow is nearest to the soul." And George Mac Donald's stories are full of naive enchantment, of simple yet elusive glamour, such as the true child-mind delights in. How much water has run under the bridge since, a generation ago, *Good Words for the Young* enchanted us with some of this author's best work! and still we keep in mind its imperishable charm. Who, for instance, could forget the fire of red roses in that hidden chamber, with its moon-like lamp, in the strange old palace? The stories are far from faultless, it is true, but they are indubitably the real thing. "Now all that his great-aunt told the boy," says the author, "about the golden key would have been nonsense, had it not been that their little house stood on the borders of Fairy-land," which exactly sums up the situation. The two volumes already issued contain severally *The Light Princess* and *The Giant's Heart and the Golden Key*, and three others are promised before Christmas. An interesting preface to the edition is supplied by Mr. Greville Mac Donald, the son of the author.

Like the heroine of the old song, Miss Beatrix Potter "never fails to please." This time she enriches the Christmas stocking with two more of her dainty booklets, namely, *The Tale of Benjamin Bunny* and *The Tale of Two Bad Mice* (Warne & Co.). Both show her peculiar talent for expressing the exquisitely little in the illustrations, and her natural sense of quiet humour in the letterpress. The pictures are all as pretty as good netsukes. Nothing could be more engaging. Perhaps 'The Two Bad Mice' displays a subtler grace than even 'Benjamin Bunny,' but on the strength of either Miss Potter could successfully claim to be the Kate Greenaway of the animal world in miniature.

An old favourite, which we have not seen for a long time, and which deserves a warm welcome once again, is *D'Aulnoy's Fairy Tales*, translated by J. R. Planché, a maker of mirth now, we fear, almost forgotten. Messrs. Routledge should find a good sale for the book, which is brightly illustrated.

avourite old nursery rhymes and stories are illustrated in *A Summerful of Children*, by Ella and Agnes Tomlinson, with sixty-five pictures, reproduced by photography, of Sussex children, who have evidently much enjoyed posing as models for such varied parts as Little Bo-Peep, Simple Simon, and Curly-locks. Remarkably beautiful results have been obtained by the camera, and the book is excellently got up in every respect; indeed, Messrs. Dent & Co. are to be congratulated on this delightful addition to their artistic children's publications.

Messrs. Simpkin & Marshall send a copy of the new edition of *Sparks from the Nursery Fire*, an excellent book by Sheila E. Braine, illustrated by Mary Watson, which we noticed on a previous occasion; and from Mr. T. N.

Foulis we have *Gretchen and her Geese*, a fairy story with highly coloured illustrations, pictured and told by Dorothy Hamilton.

Quite tiny folk are somewhat neglected by those who make our children's books; indeed, there seems here a wide field open to those who care to enter it. We welcome all the more heartily *Irene's Christmas Party*, pictures by Ruth Cobb, verses by Richard Hunter, published by Mr. Grant Richards in the "Dumpy Books for Children" series; and *The Humpty Dumpty Animal Book*, by John H. Myrtle and Reginald Rigby, received from Messrs. Anthony Treherne, a suitable gift for babies.—The amusing story of *Eliza Grump and her candle-stick husband*, told in verse by S. C. Woodhouse, with twenty coloured plates by Gerald Sichel, published by Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein, may amuse children, but will certainly entertain their elders.—We have received from Messrs. Gall & Inglis *Old Jenny's Angel*, a pretty Scotch story by Isabella C. Blackwood; and from Messrs. Wells Gardner, Darton & Co. that favourite annual *The Prize*, with *The Doll Book*, written and illustrated by May Gladwin, a quaint tale of the land of make-believe.

Mr. E. Nister's publications are notable for their inexpensive variety. It is difficult, where all successfully achieve their purpose, to select any for special mention. *Our Pets at Home*, *Farmyard Tales*, and *Bright Eyes* are among the most pleasing; while contributions from G. A. Henty and other well-known writers help to make *Nister's Holiday Annual* one of the best things of its kind.

The same firm send us some excellent Calendars, of all sorts and sizes, which should please everybody.

Messrs. Tuck & Sons easily maintain their reputation for pretty printing and variety without vulgarity in the ample box of Calendars and Cards which they send us. The range of picture postcards in particular is amazing.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The third and fourth volumes of Mrs. Napier Higgins's family history, *The Bernards of Abington and Nether Winchendon* (Longmans), are, like their predecessors, somewhat discursive in treatment. Of the generation comprised in them the most interesting member was that enlightened philanthropist Sir Thomas Bernard. A true predecessor of Lord Shaftesbury, his activities ranged from the foundation of the Society for Bettering the Condition of the Poor to the improvement of the lot of the chimney-sweepers' boys. Mrs. Napier Higgins, unfortunately, has not much to add to Baker's biography of this worthy man. His eldest brother, Sir John, was dogged by misfortune. He spent years in fruitless endeavours to secure possession of his father's American estates, and though he ultimately obtained an appointment in the West Indies by way of compensation, his efforts to improve the condition of Barbados were frustrated by the long war with France. Another brother, Sir Scrope, who after his marriage became Bernard-Morland, was a not particularly distinguished member of the Grenville connexion. From Gibbs's 'History of Aylesbury' Mrs. Napier Higgins has extracted some curious details about a Parliamentary election for that borough which placed him at the bottom of the poll. One candidate, Mr. Du Pré, who attempted to dispense with bribery, was treated to a mock funeral procession; another, Mr. Bent, was guilty of such notorious corruption that he narrowly escaped prosecution. The most lively letters in the collection come, however, from the pens of the sisters Mrs. King and Mrs. Smith. The former gives an

entertaining account of her visit to Paris during the peace of Amiens, when Napoleon was gravely reported to have received the news of the death of the Tsar Paul by throwing a dish of coffee into the fire, dashing down a pair of wax candles, and flying out of the room in a state bordering on insanity. The two volumes contain other allusions to current events of some interest, such as the appearance of the "new actress," Mrs. Siddons, when such was the crush that "honest fellows" in the front row of the shilling gallery disposed of their seats for five shillings, and the establishment of the stuff and colour ball at Alford by way of encouraging the Lincolnshire woollen industry. Mrs. Napier Higgins deals with comparative brevity with the later branches of the family. It may be noted that her father, Thomas Tyringham Barnard, was fag to Byron at Harrow, and remembered him as a most tyrannical master.

Shelley: an Essay. By A. A. Jack. (Constable & Co.)—Mr. Jack has been well advised in publishing this thoughtful essay. He discusses briefly and clearly the various aspects of Shelley and his work, his philosophy, his attitude towards nature, and the dramatic activity of which his death prevented us from seeing more than the vivid promise. From Mr. Jack's remarks on poetry in general, with which he introduces his subject, it might be easy to dissent; surely the analogy of the sculptor is of little assistance in a search for a definition of the lyric poet. No one, however, will quarrel with his description of Shelley as the "maker of a world of light, sound, and air, where the light is clear, where the sound is tenuous, where the air is fine." The vagueness of much of Shelley's poetry has been the cause of an almost equal vagueness on the part of many of his critics. Mr. Jack has avoided this danger. His analysis is sane, definite, and suggestive, and he has successfully resisted the temptations of the merely picturesque epithet. It is not quite fair, perhaps, to say of the philosophical poet that all he "can properly do....is to present his own view, and that having presented it he is at the end of his material." Mr. Jack himself scarcely seems to take this view when, with sympathy and insight, he discusses Shelley's own metaphysics. But the essay contains many thoughts expressed in phrases at once happy and illuminating. It is, for example, profoundly true, as Mr. Jack points out in his comparison of 'The Cenci' with the mature work of Shakespeare, that Shelley's tragedy is "not dropped by opulence, but calls upon the last coin of its maker." The difference between the two could not be better indicated.

Mr. Jack's style is for the most part not unworthy of his subject; but he indulges in one or two unaccountable lapses. "He doesn't argue, he doesn't mock, he doesn't puzzle," and "Let us make no bones about acknowledging it," are sentences which are neither dignified nor effective.

Two excellent additions to Messrs. Newnes's "Thin-Paper Classics" are *Homer, The Iliads and The Odysseys*, translated by Chapman, who has more of the Homeric fire and movement than many later and better scholars in Greek.

A Very Queer Business, &c., by William Westall (Chatto & Windus), is, at any rate, a varied series. The first story is that of a swindler who proves a forged will, and gets off with the money advanced to him by a usurer on the strength of it. It is hard to sympathize with the author's satisfaction in this version of "the bitter bit." 'Her American Niece' has a pleasanter theme. The young lady makes use of her time in England to reconcile certain family feuds, and reunite the stately and highly conventional Miss Billericay with the sister who has been so lost to dignity as to marry a tailor. English and

American prejudices are amusingly contrasted, and there is a good old-fashioned sporting parson, a type which the writer appreciates. Other tales are concerned with adventures in the West Indies and Venezuela; with an attempt by Russians to master an English ship loaded with explosives; with the loves of a strong man and a lion-tamer in a circus; and there are one or two more legal and several North-Country stories. These last have the merit of strong local colour. 'Tinkler' is the best of them. 'Dr. Collet's Revenge' is also a good story. Some others were hardly worth book form.

MESSRS. METHUEN have issued a pretty little reprint of L'Estrange's translation of *The Visions of Don Francisco de Quevedo Villegas*, a version so popular in its day that it ran through ten editions within forty years. It is, like most translations of the Caroline era, exceedingly free, and at times the freedom seems due to inability to understand the original; but it is undeniably vigorous and readable, so that it deserves a hearty welcome, for there are few attempts at the Lucianic allegory so well worth perusal as Quevedo's. The form is eminently convenient, and, in fact, the only drawback to this dainty reprint is the absence of a table of contents.

The Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi, rendered into English verse by James Rhoades (Chapman & Hall), is a blank-verse rendering of the 'Fioretti,' preceded by three sonnets of some merit. The prime advantage of verse as a medium for story-telling is that you can tell your story in fewer words, enlisting the audience—when they are raised to the pitch—as part authors with the poet. The fault of this version is its diffuseness. It takes more words than either of two prose versions before us to tell the same story, and occasionally the additions are not only without warrant, but even misleading. St. Francis, for example, is made to speak of himself as a "base-born son of Peter Bernardone." The translation is made from the Italian, and is, within the limit pointed out, accurate, but it preserves the errors of place-names, &c., corrected in the Latin original published last year. If Mr. Rhoades had used the pruning-knife more freely, his rendering would have been stronger and more acceptable.

Famous Sayings and their Authors, by Edward Latham (Sonnenschein), is a collection showing remarkable diligence and industry. Mr. Latham includes French, German, Greek, Italian, and Latin, as well as English sayings, and has attained a high level of accuracy which is rare in such compilations. It is evident that he is indebted to predecessors in the same field, and we think that some recognition of this should have appeared in the preface. With the remarks of M. Fournier there quoted, concerning death-bed dicta, we are in full agreement. They are untrustworthy, for the simple reason that in the majority of cases they represent a period which, by a merciful dispensation of nature, is generally one of half-consciousness. Many of the sayings here quoted are clearly of this character, and not worth reproduction, while others do not fairly represent, as we have pointed out before, the attitude of the speaker throughout his life. Often an insignificant word, which does not stay in the memory, begins these sayings. We take an instance. "All the contortions of the Sibyl without the inspiration" is, we know, in Boswell's 'Johnson,' ascribed to a literary character whose name is not given. After lengthy search, we find that it is Burke's, and begins with "it." Such a phrase should be indexed under "contortions" and "Sibyl." We are not alone in pointing out these common-sense improvements, which suggest themselves at once to a practical man; and we think the neglect of them in the long run a short-

sighted policy. A well-indexed book of this kind would be a book of reference in constant use. We should add that the book is not a large one (251 pages), so that a small selection only of phrases can be expected. We should certainly have included, for instance, two sayings in Boswell's 'Johnson' which are by forgotten men: "My boys, let us be grave; here comes a fool," and "I have tried, too, in my time to be a philosopher; but I don't know how, cheerfulness was always breaking in."

The Venture, published by Mr. John Baillie, is a collection of pictures, stories, articles, and verse by a number of clever writers, who are mostly young. There is a tendency to preciosity, and much of the work is imitative, but there is also plenty of talent. Assured authors, however, also add their quota to the vividness of 'The Venture.' Mr. Gosse supplies a poem, Mr. Symons a fragment of a play, and Mrs. Meynell some remarks on customs of publicity. *Les Jeunes*, since the prolific nineties, have had few shows of this sort, and we congratulate Mr. Baillie on his enterprise in continuing this one.

We have received *Who's Who* for 1905 (Black), a bulky record, which now runs to 1,796 pages. It is a really useful book of reference, which ought to be more widely known and used. We receive many applications for addresses which it contains from people who can well afford to have it.

THE preliminary matter which 'Who's Who' used to include now appears separately, with several additions, in the *Who's Who Year-Book* (same publishers). The issue before us is, we are glad to find, much more accurate than its predecessor. We notice, however, an error in a new list of great London preachers. The Rev. C. S. Horne is classed as a Wesleyan, whereas he belongs to the Congregationalist denomination, and thus a body which has more than one first-rate preacher is unrepresented.

WE have received also *The Englishwoman's Year-Book* for 1905, edited by Emily Janes (Black), which is now in its twenty-fifth year, and is a veritable information-bureau, being both well arranged and accurate.

THE Christmas numbers of the *Bookseller* and the *Publishers' Circular* are full of illustrations from books specially adapted for the season. Some of the reproductions are beautifully executed.—*Books of To-day*, Hatchard's Christmas number, is specially attractive from the witty clippings and good stories which it always contains, while it is also a sound guide for the book-lover.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Ecclesiæ Occidentalis Monumenta Iuris Antiquissima, edited by C. H. Hamilton, Fasc. 1, Part 2, sewed, 21/- Gamble (J.), *Christ and Criticism*, 8vo, 3/- Glover (A. E.), *A Thousand Miles of Miracle in China*, 6/- Hughes (Hugh Price), *Life, by his Daughter*, 10/-, 8vo, 12/- Lewis (E. W.), *Some Views of Modern Theology*, cr. 8vo, 3/- Mason (A. J.), *The Visions of Zechariah*, cr. 8vo, 2/- net. Men of the Old Testament: Solomon to Jonah, 3/- net. Rashi (H.), *Christus in Ecclesia*, 8vo, 4/- net. Rollo (P. G.), *Missionary Sermons and Lectures*, 2/- net. Wiener (H. M.), *Studies in Biblical Law*, 8vo, 3/- net. Young (P.), *In the Light of His Coming*, cr. 8vo, 5/- net.

Law.

Mitchell (W.), *An Essay on the Early History of the Law Merchant*, cr. 8vo, 4/- net.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Edinburgh, painted by J. Fulleylove, described by B. Mason, 8vo, 7/- net; Large-Paper Edition, 21/- net. Guardi (Francesco), 1712-93, by G. A. Simonson, fol. 42/- net. Hals (Frans), by G. S. Davies, cr. 8vo, 5/- net. Pedrick (G.), *Borough Seals of the Gothic Period*, 25/- net. Redfern (W. B.), *Royal and Historic Gloves and Shoes*, 4to, 42/- net. Studio' Whistler Portfolio, in portfolio, 10/- net. Thompson (Canon), *The History and Antiquities of the Collegiate Church of St. Saviour, Southwark*, 5/- net. Tomlinson (E. and A.), *A Summer-Book of Children*, 10/- net.

Poetry and the Drama.

Cartoons in Rhyme and Line, by Sir W. Lawson and F. C. Gould, 4to, 4/- net. Fitzgerald (P.), *The Garrick Club*, 4to, 21/- net.

Virgil, *Georgics*, translated by Lord Burghclere, 10/6 net.

Whitehead (J.), *Love's Tribute*, 12mo, vellum, 3/6 net.

Bibliography.

James (M. R.), *The Western MSS. in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge*, Vol. 4, roy. 8vo, 5/- net.

Philosophy.

Besant (A.), *A Study in Consciousness*, cr. 8vo, 6/- net.

Gaye (R. K.), *The Platonic Conception of Immortality and its Connexion with the Theory of Ideas*, cr. 8vo, 5/- net.

Political Economy.

Kirkup (T.), *Progress and the Fiscal Problem*, 3/6 net.

History and Biography.

Balzac (Honoré de), *His Life and Writings*, by M. F. Sandars, 8vo, 12/- net.

'Black and White' War Album: *The Fight in the Far East*, folio, 7/6 net.

Freemant (K. A.), *Western Europe in the Eighth Century and Onward*, 8vo, 10/- net.

Hornsey (The Story of), by R. O. Sherington, 2/6 net.

Hudson (R.), *Memorials of Warwickshire Parish*, 15/- net.

Japan in the Beginning of the Twentieth Century, by the

Department of Agriculture and Commerce, 8vo, 25/- net.

Johns (C. H. W.), *Babylonian and Assyrian Laws, Contracts, and Letters*, roy. 8vo, 12/- net.

Lang (A.), *Historical Myteries*, 8vo, 9/- net.

McCaull (E.), *Under the Care of the Japanese War Office*, 6/-

Omar al-Khayyām (Life of), by J. K. M. Shirazi, cr. 8vo, vellum, 7/- net.

Peters (C.), *England and the English*, cr. 8vo, 6/- net.

Rannie (A. W.), *A Student's History of Scotland*, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Stael (C. A. J.), *The Council in the Marches*, 8vo, 7/-

Stewart (Robert), *Viscount Castlereagh, by the Marchioness of Lansdowne*, roy. 8vo, 3/- net.

Synge (J. B.), *The Story of the World for the Children of the British Empire*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo, 7/- net.

Taylor (I. A.), *Revolutionary Types*, 8vo, 7/6 net.

Who's Who, 1905, cr. 8vo, 7/- net.

Geography and Travel.

Murray's Small Classical Atlas, edited by G. B. Grundy, 6/-

O'Connor (V. C. S.), *The Silken East*, 2 vols. roy. 8vo, 42/- net.

Pinnock (A.), *Wander-Years round the World*, 8vo, 21/- net.

Tweedie (Mrs. A.), *Sunny Sicily, its Rustics and its Ruins*, 8vo, 18/- net.

Sports and Pastimes.

Gonne (C. M.), *Hints on Horses*, oblong 4to, 5/- net.

Folk-lore.

Shadow of the Balkans, by H. Bernard and others, 7/6 net.

Traditions of the Skidi Pawnee, collected by G. A. Dorsey, 8vo, 25/- net.

Education.

Raymont (T.), *The Principles of Education*, cr. 8vo, 4/-

Philosophy.

Farmar (A.), *Place-name Correspondences*, 8vo, 2/6 net.

Mason's (G.) *Grammaire Angloise*, edited by Dr. R. Brotman, cr. 8vo, sewed, 4/- net.

Science.

Duckworth (W. L. H.), *Morphology and Anthropology*, 8vo, 15/- net; *Studies from the Anthropological Laboratory, the Anatomy School*, Cambridge, 8vo, 10/- net.

Hall (H. S.) and Stevens (F. H.), *A School Geometry*, Parts 4, 5, and 6, cr. 8vo, 2/6/-; Part 1-6, 4/6

Jeans (J. H.), *The Dynamical Theory of Gases*, 15/- net.

Renshaw (G.), *Natural History Essays*, 8vo, 6/- net.

Russell (A.), *A Treatise on the Theory of Alternating Currents*, Vol. 1, 8vo, 12/- net.

Taylor (R. W.), *A Practical Treatise on Genito-Urinary Diseases*, 8vo, 25/- net.

Text-Book of Medical Practice, edited by W. Bain, 25/- net.

Tomlin (J. H.), *Our Natural Surroundings*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Webster (A. G.), *The Dynamics of Particles and of Rigid, Elastic, and Fluid Bodies*, 8vo, 14/- net.

Whittaker (E. T.), *A Treatise on the Analytical Dynamics of Particles and Rigid Bodies*, imp. 8vo, 12/6 net.

Juvenile Books.

Berg (F.), *Swedish Fairy Tales*, translated by T. Engdahl and J. New, roy. 8vo, 6/- net.

Brooke's (L.) *Children's Books: The Three Little Pigs*, and

Tom Thumb, 4to, 2/6 net.

La Fontaine's Fables, pictured for Children by C. M. Park and R. Bull, trans. by E. Shirley, oblong 4to, boards, 5/-

Sorabji (C.), *Sun-Babies*, 8vo, 6/- net.

General Literature.

Benson (R. H.), *By What Authority?* cr. 8vo, 6/-

Beyerlein (F. A. von), *Simile Hegewahl*, cr. 8vo, 5/- net.

Bliss (Ex-Lieut.), *Dear Fatherland*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Brooks (H.), *Daughters of Desperation*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Burne-Jones (Sir Philip), *With Amy in Brittany*, 3/6 net.

Character and Conduct, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Cullimore (H.), *The Garden of Francesca*, 4to, 3/6 net.

Diary of a Church-Goer, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

England: a Nation, edited by L. Oldershaw, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Englishwoman's Year-Book and Directory, 1905, edited by

E. James, cr. 8vo, 2/6 net.

Graves (F.), *Omnia the Mystery*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Gray (C.), *A Fit of Happiness, and other Essays*, 8vo, 5/-

Hume (F.), *The Mandarin's Fan*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Langbridge (F.), *Love has no Pity*, cr. 8vo, 2/6

Lessing (B.), *Children of Men*, cr. 8vo, 5/- net.

Love Letters of a Lady of Quality, cr. 8vo, 5/-

Lucas (St. J.), *Andrew Ellison*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Macquoid (C. E. K.), *Strategy Illustrated by British Campaigns*, roy. 8vo, 10/6 net.

Mansfield (C.), *Torn Lace*, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Middlemass (J.), *The Falkners of Greenburst*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Mitchell (S. W.), *New Samaria and the Summer of St. Martin*, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Newland (H. O.), *A Short History of Citizenship*, 2/6 net.

Noble (F.), *The Temptation of Norah Leecroft*, cr. 8vo, 3/6

Oesterreicher (Baroness), *Vivian Harcourt's Secret*, 3/6

Pierson (C. D.), *Tales of a Poultry Farm*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Sergeant (A.), *Celia's Fortune*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Smith (C. Fox.), *Wings of the Morning*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Thomas (D. B.), *The Sensitive Minister*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Thomson (S. J.), *The Transvaal Burgher Camps, South Africa*, cr. 8vo, 2/6

Way (A. S.), *David the Captain*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Who's Who Year-Book for 1905, cr. 8vo, limp, 1/- net.

Wurz (G.), *The Foolish Dictionary*, cr. 8vo, 3/6 net.

Wyndham (H.), *The King's Scarlet*, cr. 8vo, 6/-

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Lemme (L.), *Christliche Ethik*, Vol. 1, 11m.

Lietzmann (H.), *Apollinaria v. Laodicea u. seine Schule*, 9m.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Chanson des Mois (La), illustré par M. Leloir, 600fr.

Hirsch (A.), *Die Frau in der bildenden Kunst*, 15m.

Münsterberg (O.), *Japanische Kunstgeschichte*, Vol. 1, 9m. 75.

Reinach (S.), *Apollo, Histoire Générale des Arts Plastiques*, 7fr. 50.

Bibliography.

Plan (P. P.), *Les Éditions de Rabelais de 1532 à 1711*, 50fr.

History and Biography.

Dard (É.), *Le Général Choderlos de Laclos*, 1741-1803, 5fr.

Delayen (G.), *L'Affaire du Courier de Lyon*, 3fr. 50.

Félegères (C.), *Histoire de la Baronnie de Chaudesaigues*, 10fr.

Krupp (Friedrich Alfred), *u. sein Werk*, 3m. 50.

Molinier (A.), *Les Sources de l'Histoire de France*: Part 1, Section 5, Les Valois, 1461-91, 5fr.

Monmson (T.), *Reden u. Aufsätze*, 8m.

Pontbriant (Vicomte du B. de), *Un Chouan: Le Général du Boisguy*, 7fr. 50.

Portalis (Baron R.), *Bernard de Requeleyne, Baron de Longepierre*, 15fr.

Geography and Travel.

Lenfant (Commandant), *La Grande Route du Tchad*, 12fr.

Sports and Pastimes.

Allemagne (H. R. d.), *Récréations et Passe-temps*, 35fr.

Science.

Cabanès (Dr.), *Remèdes d'Autrefois*, 5fr.

General Literature.

André (P.), *L'Impossible Liberté*, 3fr. 50.

Barre (A.), *Phénomé*, 3fr. 50.

Denoüville (G.), *La Mariette*, 3fr. 50.

Grandpré (A. de), *Cryptographie Pratique*, 6fr.

Hoché (J.), *La Corrupcione*, 3fr. 50.

recent vote in the Sheldonian will succeed in arresting the decay of Greek studies in the country at large, or will simply arrest that movement of change which during the last fifty years has been gradually converting Oxford from Dives Junior's playground into a workshop wherein the strenuous of all classes can mingle with mutual advantage.

Meanwhile, Oxford insists on imposing the Lesser Humanities—shall we call them?—on the remotest ends of the earth. The candidates for Rhodes Scholarships in America were put to a preliminary test devised in accordance with the existing principles of Responsions, and in several cases a State of the Union saw itself deprived at one fell swoop of every possible representative. New trials threatened the survivors. Men of B.A. standing for the most part, they could scarcely relish the prospect of entering on our Honours courses only at the cost of several months consumed over niggling preliminary examinations such as Pass Moderations. Oxford has, however, shown itself remarkably alert and adaptable in face of a novel and trying situation. A new statute grants partial or total exemption from preliminary examinations to all students, foreign or colonial, who can produce evidence of fitness for the studies which our final schools involve. Perhaps in its present form the law "falls short owing to its generality," there being, for instance, certain gaps in the list of universities whose degrees are recognized. Things will, however, soon be made straight, more especially as equity has been steadily coming to the rescue, as administered by boards and committees whose days are occupied and nights haunted by the atlas and the gazetteer.

On the question whether Oxford is going to preserve its self-identity in defiance of the invasion, or is preparing, under the guidance of our leading Hegelians, to "merge with its other in a higher synthesis," it is as yet too early to report. The Rhodes Scholars appear so far to be filled with a laudable intention not to make themselves unduly conspicuous. The prophecy of a certain Western journal remains unfulfilled, that "our quick-on-the-trigger boys will soon bore holes in their proctorial system." With all their modesty, however, the newcomers have been unable to conceal the fact that, athletically, they are picked men. Three of them accounted for seven out of nine "events" in the freshmen's sports; and Rhodes Scholars composed the entire crew that pulled off the victory in the Balliol Morrison's Fours.

Statistics show that, despite the arrival of some seventy Rhodesians, the net increase in the number of freshmen amounts to no more than thirty. This means that about forty home-grown students of the feebler sort have been crowded out; for there is no reason to suppose that there was any falling-off in the supply that offered itself. But, as was pointed out in some former Oxford Notes, it costs considerably more to teach the Honours-man than the Pass-man, whilst both pay roughly the same fees. The Rhodes Trustees, however, seem resolved that, financially, we shall have no cause to regret what otherwise is, of course, sheer gain—the improved quality of our material. They have promised to give 200L per annum for five years to aid the University in retaining the services of Dr. Ritchie, the Reader in Pathology; and, from what Lord Rosebery let fall in the course of the speech in which he made this pleasing announcement, other benefactions may be expected to follow, if the funds at the disposal of the trustees do not fail. Meanwhile, thanks to the magnificent generosity of Mr. Alfred Beit and Mr. Wernher, the most ample provision is being made for the study of Colonial History. Not only is there to be a Professorship, supported by a sub-Professorship, but students will be attracted to the subject by an annual prize; whilst the neces-

sary literature is secured for the Bodleian by a grant—altogether a most substantial hint to Oxford that she should “learn to think impartially” (*rūπτω* notwithstanding).

From another point of view, also, Oxford and the Empire are to be drawn more closely together. The Indian Civil Service examination was tending to ruin the education of our fourth-year students, our chiefest hope and pride, by encouraging wholesale smattering and cramming, and even by drawing some of the most promising men altogether away from the University to places where *foie gras* is manufactured on scientific principles. Changes, however, are to come into force for the examination of 1906 and onwards that ought to go a long way towards correlating Oxford education and Imperial appointment, honest study and a place on the list. In the first place, the age limit for the Indian Service will be the same as that for the Home Service. This virtually means that the candidate's first chance will occur after his four years' course is completed, and that there will still be another chance a year later for him if he finds that he needs special preparation. In the second place, subjects may no longer be offered to an unlimited extent, but only such as yield an aggregate maximum of 6,000 marks. Now, without going outside the range of our classical course a man can gain a maximum of 5,000 marks with his Greek and Latin, philosophy, and ancient history; and if he supplement his political philosophy, as he ought to do, with some political economy and the history of his own country, the tale of possible marks is complete. Thirdly, the scale of marks has been readjusted so as to make it correspond more nearly with the comparative difficulty of the several subjects. Logic and moral philosophy, for instance, are severally raised in value by half as much again; and even this increase, in the eyes of Oxford at least, is none too much, if two years' work at the theory of knowledge is to hold its own against, say, a fortnight's cram in geology. At length, then, there is hope that what Mr. Ward Fowler would call the most “elephantine” examination that ever trampled the fine quality out of our youth is about to give way to a method of eliciting and testing that very quality which before was crushed.

Some day, it may be, anthropology will be brought within the scope of the Indian Civil Service examination. As it is, not a few of the selected candidates display a praiseworthy desire to master the rudiments of the subject during their fifth year at Oxford, partly with a view to fitting themselves for their official duties, but more often, perhaps, out of an ambition to prosecute independent investigations amongst hill tribes and the like by way of recreation and in pursuit of literary fame. Meanwhile Oxford, which hitherto has lagged somewhat behind the sister university in respect to this matter, is thinking of stimulating the study of primitive man by the institution of a diploma, such as has been happily inaugurated of late in the case of economics. The proposal to found a final school in anthropology fell through some time ago, and is not likely to be revived. No objection, however, is likely to be raised to the giving of a diploma, unless on the somewhat trivial ground of the expense entailed by the holding of an examination. Moreover, it appears that there are those who are ready to go surety for the necessary funds. On the other hand, what an opportunity for the pious benefactor! In any case, it is high time that Oxford showed signs of appreciating the fact that perhaps the greatest man she at present harbours is likewise known all over the world as the father of anthropology.

M.

SALES.

MESSRS. PUTTICK & SIMPSON sold recently a collection of valuable books, including the library of the late Mr. Percy Betts, the musical critic, and

other properties. The following were the most interesting prices: Tennyson, *The Victim*, 1867, 51*l.* Cruikshank's *Table Book*, in the parts, 5*l.* 15*s.* Dickens, *Oliver Twist*, in the 10 parts, 6*l.* 10*s.* Cruikshank's *Humourist*, 4 vols. 17*s.* Dickens, *Pickwick*, in the parts, 10*l.* 10*s.* Burton's *Arabian Nights*, 16 vols., 26*l.* 5*s.* Broinowski's *Birds of Australia*, 3*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Cuvillie's *Oeuvres*, fine plates of ornament, &c., 31*l.* Freeman's *Norman Conquest*, 6*l.* 10*s.* Fitzgerald's *Omar Khayyam*, 1868, 7*l.* Beaumont and Fletcher's *Works*, 11 vols., 7*l.* 15*s.* *Annals of Gallantry*, 3 vols., 7*l.* *Martial and Naval Achievements*, 2 vols., 12*l.* Ackermann's *Universities of Oxford and Cambridge*, 18*l.* 10*s.* *Malton's Views of Dublin*, coloured plates, 10*l.* 5*s.* Williamson's *Oriental Field Sports*, 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* Nash's *Mansions*, 4 vols., 9*l.*

MESSRS. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge sold in their sale of the 29th and 30th ult. the following books:—Costumes of India, 80 coloured drawings, 2*l.* 10*s.* *Hora Diurna* (imperfect), Paris, 1487, 10*l.* 15*s.* Specimens of Early Typography, a large number, 15*l.* Combe's *English Dance of Death*, 2 vols., 1815, 10*l.* Evelyn's *Sculptura*, first edition, 1662, 9*l.* Harris's *Game of South Africa*, 1840, 9*l.* 9*s.* *Archæologia Aelianæ*, complete set, 1822-1900, 14*l.* 10*s.* *Bible*, *Whitechurch*, 1841 (imperfect), 15*l.* 10*s.* *Mudford's Battle of Waterloo*, illustrated by Cruikshank, &c., 1816, 11*l.* Beaumont and Fletcher, 1647, 17*l.* 15*s.* Martha Walker Freer's *Works*, original issues, 13 vols., 1826-86, 11*l.* Claude's *Liber Veritatis*, 3 vols., 1777-1819, 12*l.* 5*s.* Ray Society's *Publications*, complete, 1844-98, 2*l.* Carlyle's *Collected Works*, library edition, 34 vols., 1870-2, 16*l.* 15*s.* *Collection des Mémoires sur la Révolution Française*, 56 vols., 1821-7, 10*l.* Petitot, *Mémoires à l'Histoire de France*, 130 vols., 1819-39, 19*l.* 10*s.* Thackeray's *Works*, 22 vols., 1869, 10*l.* *Tableaux Historiques de la Révolution Française*, fine proofs and an original drawing by Fragonard, Paris, 1798-1802, 4*l.* Walton's *Lives of Donne*, &c., first edition, 1670, 10*l.* 10*s.* Ackermann's *Repository of Arts*, 40 vols., 1809-28, 3*l.* 5*s.* *Wheatley's London Past and Present*, extra-illustrated, 6 vols., 1891, 12*l.* 10*s.* Pyne's *Royal Residences*, 1819, 13*l.*

The same auctioneers sold on the 2nd and 3rd inst. the library of his late Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, amongst which were the following: Ackermann's *Microcosm of London*, 3 vols., 1808, 17*l.* 15*s.*; Ackermann's *Repository of Arts*, Vols. 1-28, 15*l.* *Les Glorieuses Conquêtes de Louis le Grand*, extra-illustrated with 706 plates, Paris, 1676, 3*l.* Illustrated *“Vinegar” Bible*, 1717, 39*l.* V. Martinelli, *Istoria Critica della Vita Civile*, embroidered binding, dedication copy to Edward, Duke of York, 1764, 20*l.* *Jane Eyre*, 2 vols., original cloth, 1847, 22*l.* 10*s.* *Costumes of Merchants, Trades, &c., of Venetia*, 42 coloured plates, Wien, n.d., 43*l.* Frederic II, King of Prussia, *Oeuvres*, édition de luxe, 200 copies printed, 32 vols., 1846-56, 25*l.* 10*s.* Lipscomb's *Buckinghamshire*, large paper, 4 vols., 1847, 14*l.* 10*s.* *Bounds and Commons Journals*, 1509-1901, 196 vols., 3*l.* *Military Costumes of the Austrian Army*, 226 coloured plates, 52*l.* *Military Costumes, German* (99), 17*l.* *Military Costumes, British*, by C. H. Smith, 60 plates, 1815, 40*l.* *Military Costumes, Danish*, 115 plates, 1829, 21*l.* *Monuments Germaniae Historiae*, 24 vols., various, 1826-81, 58*l.* Pamphlets (647) on *America*, &c., eighteenth century, 6*l.* *Collection of Plays*, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (including some first editions), 6*l.* Pyne's *Royal Residences*, 3 vols., 1819, 21*l.* *Rolls of Parliament* as issued by the Commissioners of George III., 42 vols., v.d., 18*l.* 10*s.*

Literary Gossip.

MR. FISHER UNWIN will publish in the spring a volume of stories by Miss Jane Barlow, entitled ‘*By Beach and Bog-Land*.’ The stories all have their scene laid in the west of Ireland: some of them in Connaught, at or near the Lisconnel of the author's ‘*Irish Idylls*’; others further north, in County Donegal. They are not written to support any particular theory, but illustrate peasant life in these parts of Ireland.

MESSRS. METHUEN are going to publish a book on ‘*The Makers of Japan*,’ by Mr. J. Morris. It is a series of biographies of the men who, within the last forty years, have brought their country to the front, and the author has had the advantage of being intimate with many of them in Japan.

Two works by Mr. Gosse, announced to appear at the beginning of this month—a volume of criticism, ‘*French Profiles*,’ to be published by Mr. Heinemann; and a monograph on Coventry Patmore, to be published by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton—have been postponed until the new year, in consequence of the plethora of Christmas books in the market.

THE number of books published just before Christmas is, indeed, so large that it is almost impossible to cope with. But many of them deserve or demand notice before that holiday is reached, and we shall therefore increase our space for reviews by adding four pages to next week's *Athenæum*.

AMONG the publications of the Macmillan Company, of New York, to be issued during the present month, are Mr. Clifton Johnson's ‘*Highways and Byways of the South*,’ a record of impressions, chiefly of rustic life and character, in the picturesque regions of Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, and the neighbouring States; and ‘*Reminiscences of Peace and War*,’ by Mrs. Roger Pryor, who a year ago published a book on ‘*The Mother of Washington and her Times*.’

THE same firm are issuing a selection of ‘*Economic Essays*’ from the writings of the late Prof. Charles Dunbar, of Harvard University, to which an introduction has been supplied by Prof. F. W. Taussig, and ‘*The Distribution of Wealth*,’ by Prof. T. N. Carver, in which he sets forth the conclusions at which he has arrived as a result of ten years' teaching of political economy, while Dr. E. T. Devine, who is secretary of the Charity Organization Society of New York, discusses ‘*The Principles of Relief*.’

A DINNER to celebrate the tercentenary of the publication of ‘*Don Quixote*’ will take place at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Thursday, January 19th. Among those who have agreed to be present are the Spanish Ambassador and the First Secretary to the Spanish Embassy. The arrangements are in the hands of Major Martin Hume, Mr. J. Fitzmaurice-Kelly, and Mr. Clement Shorter.

MR. B. H. BLACKWELL, of Oxford, has issued a catalogue of the first portion of the varied collection of books (with the exception of the Scandinavian section) which belonged to York Powell. An excellent photograph of the professor is reproduced on the title-page. This portion enumerates 1,307 books, which show the collector's varied tastes. Very many of the volumes have Powell's elaborate and decorative signature inscribed in them. Mr. Blackwell hopes to issue the catalogue of the second portion (which will include such subjects as history and biography, antiquities, philology, Greek and Latin classics, philosophy, law, &c.) early in the new year.

THE edition of ‘*The Earthly Paradise*’ mentioned last week will not be printed, as we supposed, in the “Golden Type,” but will be issued in the same style of binding as the ‘*Lectures*,’ &c., by Morris, which were so printed.

THE death of Adeline Sergeant at Bournemouth on Sunday last, in her fifty-fourth year, removes a prolific novelist. She did creditable and sometimes considerable work in fiction, but wrote so much that she did

not give herself time to display or mature her powers. She won a prize for a serial offered by the *People's Friend* with 'Jacobi's Wife,' published in 1883, and since then had been a constant contributor of stories to that paper, which were issued in book form by a variety of publishers. 'The Waters of Oblivion' by her has just been published by Mr. John Long. She had also worked as a journalist in Dundee.

MESSRS. GOWANS & GRAY, of Glasgow, will publish shortly 'The Hundred Best Poems (Lyrical): Second Series.' Our favourable notice of the first series, a year ago, has been followed by general appreciation, for the little book is already in its fourteenth thousand.

THE Head Masters' Conference, which did not meet last December, will meet this year on the afternoon of December 22nd and morning of December 23rd, at Christ's Hospital, Horsham. The chief item of the programme will be a discussion of the report of the Cambridge Studies and Examinations Syndicate. Subjects also of importance to be dealt with are secondary-school certificates and the Board of Education's recently issued syllabus on English literature. Local authorities will be interested to hear what the head masters think on the proposal to send elementary teachers to secondary schools instead of to local centres. Two items will concern the National Service League: proposals to make membership of the school cadet corps compulsory, and for head masters to limit the practice of public-school boys at Bisley to one day.

To the Sociological Society on Tuesday next, at the School of Economics and Political Science, Clare Market, W.C., Prof. M. E. Sadler will deliver an address on 'The School in some of its Relations to Social Organization and to National Life.'

WITH the new year the *Mercure de France* will be published, after the general manner of French reviews, once a fortnight instead of once a month. Since its foundation in January, 1890, the *Mercure* has increased in size from 32 to 300 pages, and in price from 40 centimes to 1fr. 25. While a score or two of *revues jeunes* have died young around it, it has thriven, in spite of its unique devotion to literature, thanks largely to the remarkable business faculty of its editor, M. Alfred Vallette. The last hundred and thirty or so pages of each number are devoted to a 'Revue du Mois,' or "encyclopédie au jour le jour du mouvement universel des idées," in which the current literature of all Europe is reviewed, briefly and competently; and one of the reasons for the fortnightly publication is the desire to render this summary still more actual.

M. MARCEL SCHWON writes from Paris:—

"I notice, with some surprise, among the advertisements of Thomas Nelson & Sons, publishers (*Athenæum*, November 26th), 'The Children's Crusade,' by E. Everett-Green.

"May I point out—

"1. That my 'Croisade des Enfants' was published fully ten years ago by the firm La Société du *Mercure de France* (1894).

"2. That this book has since been issued in English form, in the translation of M. Copley Greene, by Small, Maynard & Co., Boston, in

the year 1900, and circulated in America and England with the title 'The Children's Crusade.'

"3. And, lastly, that this same work, still under the title of 'La Croisade des Enfants,' has been developed into musical form by M. Gabriel Pierné selected for a prize in May last by the jury of the Concours Musical de la Ville de Paris, and is about to be performed on the 18th and 22nd of January next at the Concerts Colonne ?

"Although the 'Children's Crusade' is mentioned in the advertisement of Messrs. Nelson as 'a famous historical subject,' I rather doubt the propriety of having published the book under this title, after the issue in English of Messrs. Small, Maynard & Co."

THE well-known author Justus van Maurik, whose death is announced in his fifty-eighth year, was a native of Amsterdam. To his thorough knowledge of the inhabitants of that city, his keen eye for character, and his strong sense of humour we owe a series of masterly sketches, in which the lower classes of Amsterdam, with their joys and sorrows, live before us. Maurik was also the author of several plays.

SCIENCE

The Native Races of South-East Australia.
By A. W. Howitt, D.Sc. (Macmillan & Co.)

(First Notice.)

DURING forty years Dr. Howitt has been the leader of anthropological study as far as Australia is concerned. With Dr. Fison or independently he has published in various books and learned journals almost all that we knew about native customary laws and beliefs before Dr. Roth and Messrs. Spencer and Gillen gave us the fruits of their researches. Dr. Howitt now offers, not, we trust, the final, but the most recent and carefully revised results of his studies to the public. He has not always to present the result of his personal field studies. He collects the reports of some sixty correspondents, working at various places and at various dates, often remote. Not all of them were accurately informed, not all of the tribes which they observed survive; many are now but "station blacks" clothed, and "contaminated" by European and missionary influences. Thus a good deal of the evidence, by no fault of Dr. Howitt's, must be taken "under all reserves"; he corrects it, as originally presented, wherever he has the opportunity and the means.

The natives of Australia, while almost all on the same dead level of material culture, differ widely among themselves as regards social institutions, ceremonies, and beliefs. North and west we more frequently find descent reckoned in the male line; consequently local groups tend to supersede totemic associations and connexions, the members of a local group being mainly of one totem, as, in Scotland, the possessors of each glen tended to be of one patronymic. In such tribes we commonly find an increased and increasing complexity of marriage law. In place of the simple dichotomy of the tribe into two exogamous and intermarrying moieties ("phratries," or, in Dr. Howitt's phrase, "classes"), including one set of totem-kins in one, and a different set in the

other moiety, we find, in the north and west, that four or eight "sub-classes" regulate marriage, while the old "phratry" (or "class") names, such as *Mukuara* (Eagle Hawk) and *Kilpara* (Crow), are obsolete and forgotten; or, where they do survive, are of unknown meaning. Four "sub-classes," indeed, exist in South-Eastern Australia, in some cases where descent is reckoned on the female side; but eight such "sub-classes" do not occur to our knowledge, except with male reckoning of descent, in the centre, north, and west. With Dr. Howitt, we take female reckoning and the least complex organization to be the earliest. Next, in the centre, north, and west, totemic magic for the good of the tribal food supply is far more prominent than in the south and east, if in these regions it has ever existed. Again, ceremonies of initiation in the centre, north, and west are much more numerous, complex, prolonged, and painful (including circumcision, with or without the much more cruel and preposterous *ariltha* rite or "subincision"). The less socially advanced tribes of the south and east again display little, if anything, of the central and northern belief in the perpetual reincarnation of the original stock of souls. As a consequence of that belief, perhaps, the central and northern tribes are reported to be ignorant of the natural facts of procreation. Elsewhere (p. 284) "a woman is only a nurse who takes care of a man's children for him." Finally, while Messrs. Spencer and Gillen, in their two recent books, find but one trace of belief—among the central and northern tribes—in what Dr. Howitt calls "the All Father," living in or above the sky, with a son who often patronizes the tribal rites, Dr. Howitt, in the south and east, finds "the same being under different names, such as *Nurrundere*, *Nurelli*, *Bunjil*, *Mungan-ngaaua*, *Daramulun*, and *Baiame*"—we could add other cases. Dr. Howitt does not think that the belief in this being is either a result of ancestor-worship (p. 506) or of missionary origin (pp. 504-507), and he gives his reasons, to which again we could add from pre-missionary records, not noted by him. Though he does not assert that the believers "have consciously any form of religion" (which is a matter of the definition of "religion"), he thinks "it may be said that their beliefs are such that, under favourable circumstances, they might have developed into an actual religion, based on their worship of *Mungan-ngaaua* or *Baiame*." Here, again, we could adduce good evidence for the existence of worship, if prayer is worship. The belief in the All Father is, Dr. Howitt thinks, confined, so far as his knowledge goes, to the tribes of the most primitive, least complex, and least advanced social organization (p. 500). If that be so, it appears to us (under correction) that the tribes with no All Father are All Fatherless just because they are "advanced" and emancipated. They, or at least the Arunta and their congeners, have reached a theory of reincarnation and evolution which is (if really held without contradictory myths) incompatible with the belief in the All Father. In that case, the current anthropological theories of the evolution of religion are in a parlous case, which neither surprises nor distresses us.

Dr. Howitt's personal observations were made, first, some forty years ago, among tribes nearly of the centre, such as the Dieri, who dwell near Loch Eyre, and are more or less in touch with the Urabunna, who intermarry with the absolutely central Arunta. He also knew southern tribes, mostly extinct, such as the Wolgal and Coast Murring. The Dieri seem to be in a transitional stage, for, like the tribes of the north and west, they have circumcision, subincision, totemic magic, no All Father, and a set of "Alcheringa" ancestors, like the Arunta, named *Mura Mura*, but not, as among the Arunta, reincarnated perpetually. So far, the Dieri are attached to the advanced northern and western types of culture, but they have the simplest social organization—two "classes" (phratries), two different sets of totem-kins in these, and reckoning of descent on the spindle side. They are thus of an intermediate type. Among them Dr. Howitt discovers "group marriage," which he takes to be very primitive. We, on the other hand, reckon the institution which Dr. Howitt calls "group marriage" as a late and eccentric, not as a primitive and universal trait of manners. We do not know it in the tribes of primitive social organization, without "sub-classes" (four or eight), and with reckoning of descent in the female line, which form the Barkinji "nation," on the Darling and Paroo rivers. These tribes have not circumcision, subincision, and Alcheringa ancestors, like the Dieri, so far as we are aware. Nor have they the Pirrauru or Piraungaru custom of the Dieri and Urabunna, the custom which Dr. Howitt calls group marriage and regards as pristine. It is only asserted of some of them that "at times there were great tribal gatherings when wives were exchanged," and also to avert fancied troubles. This means licence "at great tribal gatherings," or for some reason of superstition, but Dr. Howitt thinks that "here we have a survival of the practice of group marriage." The word "survival" appears to us to beg the question, as Mr. Crawley argues in "The Mystic Rose." Dr. Howitt has elsewhere used "Barkinji" as synonymous with the most primitive type of organization, and the Barkinji nation ought to exhibit the most decided cases of group marriage, if that be primitive. They do the reverse: it is the Dieri, with so many advanced usages of the centre and west, who are most addicted—with the Urabunna and other congeners—to the Pirrauru custom, or "group marriage." Dr. Howitt's account of this custom contains many details which we do not remember having observed in his previous studies. The topic is one for "a separate dissertation."

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—Nov. 23.—Dr. J. E. Marr, President, in the chair.—Mr. E. W. Heaton was elected a Fellow. The following communications were read: "On an Ossiferous Cavern of Pleistocene Age at Hoe-Grange Quarry, Longcliffe, near Braddington, Derbyshire," by Messrs. H. H. Arnold-Bemrose and E. T. Newton, and "The Superficial Deposits and Pre-Glacial Valleys of the Northumberland and Durham Coalfield," by Mr. D. Woolacott.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 29.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger, V.P., in the chair.—Dr. W. Kidd exhibited a drawing of, and made some remarks upon, the extensor

surface of the hand of a chimpanzee.—A communication was read from Capt. R. Crawshay containing some observations on the field natural history of the lion, made during seventeen years of travel and residence in Central Africa.—The sixth part of Sir Charles Eliot's contributions "On some Nudibranchs from East Africa and Zanzibar" was read. It contained an account of thirty species and varieties, of which eight of the former and one of the latter were described as new.—Mr. R. Lydekker exhibited and read a paper on some photographs of giraffes and a zebra taken from pictures in the art collection at Windsor Castle, and an old print of a zebra dated 1762. Mr. Lydekker was of opinion that the picture and print of the zebra had been taken from the same animal. In a second communication Mr. Lydekker described two specimens of lorises, one a slow loris (*Nycticebus*) and the other slender loris (*Loris*), which had recently been acquired by the British Museum. It was pointed out that the latter was sufficiently different from the typical *L. gracilis* to be entitled to sub-specific rank.—A paper was read from Dr. H. J. Hansen, of Copenhagen, dealing with the morphology and classification of the Asellota group of crustaceans, and giving descriptions of the genus *Stenotriops* and its species.—The Chairman read a paper on the lizard *Lacerta depressa* of Camerano and its varieties.—A communication from Mr. R. Gurney, giving an account of a small collection of freshwater Entomostrocha from South Africa, was read. The collection comprised examples of five species, three of which were described as new.—Mr. F. E. Beddoe read a paper on the cranial osteology of the Egyptian mastigure (*Uromastyx spinipes*), based on observations made in the Society's Prosectorium.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Dec. 2.—Prof. Lawrence in the chair.—Mr. C. J. Tabor was elected a Member.—Prof. Skeat read a paper on "Ghost-words," i.e., imaginary words due to the blunders of editors and printers. The number of examples explained in the paper amounted to about seventy, of which the following are a few specimens:—*Belle Isauda*, explained by Skinner to mean "beautifully I said"; for *belle Isauda*, fair Isoult, Chaucer's "House of Fame," 1796. *Autremite*, for *autremite*, in Thynne's Chaucer, "Mouk's Tale," B. 3562. *Belpropis*, Crowley's error for *bel paroles*, fair words, "P. Plowman," B. xv. 113. *Chefes*, error for *cheses*, cheeses, "Rom. Rose," 7041. *Clenge*, error for *elenge*, "P. Plowm." B. Prol. 190 (Skinner). *Congayne* (Skinner), error for *congeye*, "P. Plowm." B. iii. 173. *Drafty*, for *drasty*, Chaucer, C. T., B. 2113, 2120. *Efters*, error for *estres*, "Rom. Rose," 1448. *Eyses*, for *eynes*, eaves; see "Eaves" in N.E.D. *Gofish*, for *gofish*, goose-ish, "Troilus," iii. 764. *Gratch*, for *gratthe*, to apparel, "Rom. Rose," 7363. *Hawselines*, for *haweslines*, see "N.E.D." *Houton*, hollow, adj. error for *houten*, they halloo or shout out, "Plowman's Tale," 872. *Intemate*, regarded by Skinner as a by-form of *attenuate*, thin; an error for *intemate*, inviolate, "The Craft of Lovers." *Maris*, as a plural; error for *muis*, bushels, "Rom. Rose," 5590. *Mombishness*, explained as "muttering" by Skinner; from Thynne's Chaucer, but the MS. has *moublie-nies*, i.e., forget-me-nots, "Assembly of Ladies," 61. *Monerease*, "a she-mourner at funerals," Coles; an error for *monerese*, "Rom. Rose," 149. *Nakours*, "brazen horns," Skinner; error for *nakers*, kettle-drums, "Knight's Tale." *Olmtrees*, "elm-trees," in Coles and Skinner; error for *oliverees*, olive-trees, "Rom. Rose," 1314, 1381. *Probatione piscant*, error for *probatic piscine*, "Ballad in Commendation of our Lady," st. 19; from Lat. *probatica piscina*, in John v. 2. Coles has the word *proroked*, which he explains by "hid himself in a rock"; the word meant being *parroked*, i.e., enclosed, from *parrok*, the old form of park. Skinner has *reukes*, explained by "rooks"; but the word meant is the M.E. *renkes*, men. Nearly all these words are in Speght's Chaucer, or may be found in the old dictionaries by Skinner, Coles, Kersey, and Bailey.—Mr. G. Lawson asked the Society to declare its willingness to join the American Association and other societies in an International Congress to consider whether a universal language could be invented or an existing language adopted as the universal one. The matter was referred to the Council for report at a future meeting.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Dec. 6.—Sir Guilford L. Molesworth, President, in the chair.—It was announced that 147 candidates had been admitted as Students. The monthly ballot resulted in the election of 22 Members, 91 Associate Members, and 5 Associates.

SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.—Dec. 5.—Mr. D. B. Butler, President, in the chair.—A paper was read on "Condensing Machinery," by Mr. W. E. Storey.

BRITISH NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 30.—*First Annual Meeting.*—Mr. P. Carlyon-Britton, President, in the chair.—The Hon. J. H. Choate was elected, and the Marquis de Soveral and the Count de Lalain were proposed as Honorary Members. Ten new Ordinary Members were elected, and further applications for membership were received.—The President announced that the King of Portugal had consented to receive a deputation on the following day with an illuminated address welcoming him as one of the Royal Members of the Society.—The annual report of the Council was read, showing that the limit of 500 ordinary members had been attained, and the total (including the Royal and Honorary Members) was 509. The Treasurer's accounts carried forward a surplus of 3731. 12s. 9d. to capital account.—The following were elected officers for the forthcoming year: President, Mr. P. Carlyon-Britton; Vice-Presidents, the Marquess of Ailesbury, the Earl of Powis, Lord Grantley, Sir F. D. Dixon-Hartland, and Messrs. G. R. Askwith and Bernard Roth; Director, Mr. L. A. Lawrence; Treasurer, Mr. R. H. Wood; Librarian, the Rev. H. J. D. Astley; and Secretary, Mr. W. J. Andrew.—The President read a paper on "Treasure Trove, the Treasury, and the Trustees of the British Museum." After dealing at length with the present position of treasure trove under the existing laws, and correcting several erroneous impressions generally current, he instanced the recent case in which the Attorney-General, on behalf of the Crown, successfully established its title to certain valuable Celtic gold ornaments found at Lough Foyle, in Ireland, as establishing the fact that the British Museum had no greater rights in treasure trove than the humblest individual. Although the authorities in the Coin and Medal Department of the Museum upon various occasions, to which he referred, had not hesitated to threaten others with its influence in the direction of prosecution, it was most unfortunate, in view of the sympathy all of them had with the national collection, that under the existing law there were no persons more often "suspected of treasure trove" than the authorities themselves. As two of the many instances of this, he quoted Mr. Grueter's account of finds of Anglo-Saxon and Norman silver coins valued at 1,500*l.* and 150*l.* respectively, which the Museum had obtained "fresh from the soil." In the one case the finders were rewarded with about 15*l.*, and in the other, "an old labouring man in poor circumstances," who found the treasure, received 13*l.* On neither occasion were any questions asked, although in the later instance the very hedge at Awbridge where the coins were found was described. There were only five employees in this Department of the Museum, and he urged that extra help should be granted to enable it to deal with the important and valuable section of the coinage of the British Empire. During the last thirty years less than 14 per cent. of the coins added to the collection came under that heading. Only two parts of a catalogue had been issued, in 1887 and 1893, comprising Anglo-Saxon coins. There was no catalogue, even in MS., of ancient British coins, nor of any series subsequent to Harold II. Apart from the precautions demanded by ordinary prudence on the part of trustees of valuable public property, the absence of printed descriptions of nearly the whole British series was a circumstance much to be deplored, the more so as amongst the coins at present arranged in the cabinets were some obviously false pieces. Finally, after several other difficulties in this relation had been dealt with, the draft was sketched of an Act of Parliament which would meet modern requirements in the law of treasure trove, and remove it from the unpopular to the popular side of legislation, by providing that the reward to the finders should be based upon the real market value of the treasure, and that the curios should be offered, in the first instance, to the British Museum, and secondly, to the public museums of the county in which they were found.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

MON. Surveyors' Institution, 4.—"Notes on Clay Working, more particularly Bricks and Tiles," Mr. J. Jopling.

TUES. London Institution, 5.—"A Sketch of the Development of Modern Music," Mr. Chinner.

WED. Society of Engineers, 7.—Annual Meeting.

WED. Society of Arts, 8.—"Musical Wind Instruments," Lecture III., Mr. D. J. Blaikley. (Cantor Lectures.)

WED. Geographical, 8.—"Explorations in Bolivia," Dr. H. Hook.

TUES. Royal Academy, 9.—"History of the Proposed International Excavations," Dr. G. Wiedenstein.

WED. Asiatic, 4.—"Is Zoroastrianism Dualistic?" Rustamji Edalji Dastur Feshotan Sanjana.

COLONIAL INSTITUTE, 8.—"Present-Day Uganda," Lieut.-Col. J. Haynes.

WED. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—"Discussion on 'The Construction of a Concrete Railway-Viaduct.'

Zoological, 8.—"Some Notes on Anthropoid Apes," Hon. Walter Rothschild; "The Cranial Osteology of the Claperoë Plesiosaur," Dr. W. G. Kidwood; "The Characters and Taxonomy of the British Species of Leucosolenia," Prof. E. A. Minchin.

WED. Chemical, 5.—"Hydrolysis of Ammonium Salts," Mr. V. H. Vely; "The Viscosity of Liquid Mixtures, Part II," Mr. A. H. Dunstan; "The Diazot-Reaction in the Diphenyl Series: Part II. Ethoxybenzidine," Mr. J. C. Cain; and two other papers.

WED. British Archæological Association, 8.—‘An Ancient Ship discovered at Hebron,’ Mr. R. H. Forster; ‘Bath Old Bridge and the Chapel Thereon,’ Mr. Emmanuel Green.

—Society of Arts, 8.—‘The Patent Laws,’ Mr. C. D. Abel.

THURS. Royal, 4.

—Historical, 5.—‘The Beverley Town Riots,’ Mr. C. T. Flower; ‘The Case of Dr. George,’ Mr. K. H. Brodie.

—London Institution, 6.—‘Bird Music,’ Mr. J. S. Sheldon.

—Royal Numismatic, 6.—‘Masonic Question raised by Shakespeare,’ Mr. J. C. Green; ‘The Halfpenny and Half-Crown of King IV. of Scotland,’ Mr. H. A. Gribble.

—Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—‘Discussion on “Studies in Magnetic Testing” Paper on “The Combination of Dust, Detectors and Electricity Works, Economically Considered,”’ Mr. J. C. Green.

—Institution of Foresters, 8.—‘The Ecology of Woodland Plants,’ Dr. T. W. Woodhead; ‘Experimental Studies on Heredity in Rabbits,’ Mr. C. C. Hurst.

FRI. Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—‘Folkestone Harbour,’ Mr. J. C. Green; ‘The Old Pier,’ Mr. R. H. Lee.

—Institution of Mechanical Engineers, 8.—‘Heat Treatment Experiments with Chrome-Vanadium Steel,’ Capt. H. K. Halskey and Mr. J. Kent-Smith. Discussion on ‘Steel’.

Science Gossipy.

MM. KAMINSKY AND OCoulitsch publish in No. 3981 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* a continuation of the ephemeris of Encke's comet to the end of the year. It is now near the eastern boundary of the constellation Aquila, and at the end of next week will be very near the star θ Aquile, moving in a south-westerly direction. The nearest approach to the earth will be on the 15th inst.; distance, 0 479 in terms of the earth's mean distance from the sun, or about forty-five millions of miles; but the perihelion passage will not occur till about January 4th, so that the comet will not be reckoned as *b*, 1904, but *I*, 1905. Mr. D. Smart has pointed out, in the *Journal* (vol. xv. No. 1) of the British Astronomical Association, that it will pass within about 3,800,000 miles of the planet Mercury on the 9th prox. The comet's apparent place at that time will be too near that of the sun for it to be visible; but it is possible that it may be seen in the southern hemisphere after the perihelion passage. In view, however, of the remarkable faintness of the comet at the present return this is hardly likely. Dr. Holetschek, of Vienna, states that, even on the 13th ult., its brightness did not exceed that of a star of the tenth and a half magnitude, and that it was so enfeebled by a near approach to B.D. + 19° 4926 (9½ magnitude) about 9^h 50^m on that evening that it could scarcely be perceived.

FOUR new variable stars were detected by Miss Leavitt on an examination of photographic plates taken by the late Dr. Roberts. These were all within the great nebula in Orion, and several others have been found by Mrs. Fleming by comparisons on the Harvard College plates. Two (in Camelopardalis and Draco respectively) have been found on the Greenwich astrographic plates; and one in Cepheus (to be reckoned var. 185, 1904, Cephei) has been noticed by Madame Cerasiki whilst examining plates taken by M. Blajke at the Moscow Observatory.

FINE ARTS

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Adventures among Pictures. By Charles Lewis Hind. (A. & C. Black.)—These essays were mostly contributed to the *Academy*. They are "breezy," "chatty," "crisp," and "genial," and have all the merits of ephemeral and popular journalism. Mr. Hind appears to have a genuine love of painting, while in his overflowing good nature and catholicity of taste he can find room to admire even good art. Generally we suspect that his keenest affections go out towards men whom we cannot regard as of the first rank—Troyon, Harpignies, Mauve, and Israëls; but one can trust him to give his real impressions about pictures, and for that much may be forgiven. If one believed in educating the masses by meeting them half way, this would be an excellent example of how to set about it, for Mr. Hind's good humour is infectious, and he might carry the Philistine by easy stages up to a Degas without his shying at anything that smelt of affectation or preciosity.

Velasquez. By Wilfred Wilberforce and A. R. Gilbert. "Little Books on Art." (Methuen.) —We should scarcely have thought another little book on Velasquez was wanted; there must be a good many in the market which do not maintain too severe a standard, and the present one can scarcely be said to add to our enjoyment or information. It is written in a laboured and turgid style. We are told, for instance, that "'Grande Exception' writ large glimmered in letters of minted gold across the surface" of Velasquez's career, and that imagination "can parallel the course of the wind blowing out of the east, and fly low gathering earth germs in its current." We suppose that Velasquez's imagination behaved in this peculiar and unseemly manner. The illustrations, many of them from engravings, are poor; that of Innocent X., apparently from a drawing, is almost caricatured.

Great Masters, Part XXV. (Heinemann), is unusually good. It contains Van Dyck's portrait of Snyders, from Lord Carlisle's collection, one of the finest compositions Van Dyck ever produced, and Boucher's 'Triumph of Venus' at Stockholm, again a superb composition. There is, or used to be, at Madame Tussaud's a replica of this or a closely similar composition. The 'Ascension,' by Giovanni Bellini, lately acquired by the Berlin Gallery, comes out well as regards general effect, but is a little woolly in the detail. The number closes with Rubens's 'Helena Fourment' at the Hague.

Ornament and its Application. By Lewis F. Day. (Batsford.)—Few words are more often profaned and misused in the language of contemporary art than is “conventional.” Mr. Lewis F. Day’s latest work should serve towards its rehabilitation. ‘Ornament and its Application’ is, in fact, a plea for the “conventional”—not, of course, in the sense of the slavishly imitative and unprogressive, but of the realization and acceptance of the general principles of treatment which underlie the work of the best men of the best periods in the “applied” arts, and of the technical reasons on which those principles are based—that wood is not clay, and metal different from either, and that the character of ornament is largely determined by the material and tools employed, and so forth. Mr. Day’s advice is all on the side of common sense, and it is devoutly to be wished that certain of our present-day “artists” would take much of it to heart—as, for instance, that what is needed of the artist is not all that he can do, but only what is called for by the occasion—or that the limit of fit ornament is marked by “handiness” and use. What a deluge of ill-considered, indigestible work of the “unconventional” type we should be spared if these truisms were more generally accepted.

There are, it is true, some minor points in which one must disagree with Mr. Day. He sometimes, in fact, disagrees with himself, as when (p. 14) he rails against "the absurd misunderstanding" (which is not, perhaps, so indefensible as he thinks) that "ornament is something added after a thing is made," only to add, as a proof that the need for ornament arose from the natural irritability of man, who cannot keep his fingers from fidgeting (p. 172), the instance of a South Sea islander putting notches on the handle of his axe. One might, by the way, join issue as to the origins of ornament. Did it not more probably grow out of human realization that human works are both less beautiful and less useful (for their differing purposes) than those of nature, and the belief that by adding beauty to them this inferiority might be somewhat diminished? But whether ornament is to be classed, as Mr. Day would thus seem to think, with that mischief which Satan finds for idle hands to do, or is due to some other cause, it exists and flourishes, and such thoughtful and sensible advice as that with which 'Ornament and its Application' is filled

should do much to stem the tide of miscalled originality which is rapidly bringing some of us to wish that, let us say, primitive man had been too busy in using his axe, even upon the heads of his neighbours, to have time to invent ornament upon its handle. This is certainly a book for students and others to read and digest, a process which will be materially assisted by the many and excellent illustrations which accompany the letterpress.

How to Identify Portrait Miniatures. By G. C. Williamson. (Bell.)—Dr. Williamson is an eminent authority on his subject, and he has done well in publishing a popular handbook for those who cannot possess his expensive 'History of Portrait Miniatures.' The history is here excellently abridged, and the characteristics and special merits of each painter are clearly described and temperately appraised. Dr. Williamson's taste is not enslaved to fashion, and he is candid about the weaknesses of some artists who happen to be the idols of the moment. He regards Samuel Cooper as the first of miniaturists, and Smart as the best man of the eighteenth century. He wisely says much about less important artists, for it is to one of them that a miniature in need of identification is likely to belong. A page or two of facsimiles of signatures might have been more useful than the careful description of every monogram in the text. Illustrations are numerous, and information is added about the collections in which each artist may best be studied. English work, naturally, is made most prominent, but foreign painters and collectors are not forgotten. The last five chapters, written by Mr. Alyn Williams, give thoroughly practical advice to those who paint miniatures.

On Collecting Engravings, Pottery, Porcelain, Glass, and Silver. By Robert Edward. "The Wallet Series." (Arnold).—The beginner may find this little book of service, but it will not aid him much when he comes to face practical problems. Too many subjects are discussed in too few pages. The sections on pottery and porcelain are more methodical in composition than the rest. The few remarks on engraving are casual and ill-judged; the reader to whom they are addressed has no concern with questionable statements about Wolgemut and Baldini. Would it not have been wiser to point out to him the distinction between original and reproductive engraving, and to suggest that the original work of our own day has a claim on his attention? A short bibliography appended to each section adds something to the usefulness of the book, to which we cannot, however, assign a high rank in the numerous class of collectors' handbooks.

NOTES FROM ROME.

A REMARKABLE work of the early Renaissance has been added to the Borghese Gallery, which has lately become the property of the nation. It is a 'Madonna and Child,' by Simone Martini, painted between 1317 and 1320, while this artist was working in Naples for King Robert of Anjou. The 'Madonna' had found its way into a private house in the city of Chieti, where it was rediscovered by Prof. Venturi, and secured for the Borghese Gallery at an exceedingly modest cost. The Corsini Gallery likewise boasts of a new and valuable acquisition, a 'St. Sebastian between the Kneeling Figures of the Two Donors,' the work of Melozzo da Forlì. It was originally painted in the time of Sixtus IV. (1471-84) for the church, built by that Pope, of Santa Maria della Pace, from which it was stolen very likely at the time of the first French invasion. In 1825 it became the property of a Neapolitan family, in whose inventory it was entered as the work of a Francesco Melozzi, painted in 1472 for a Cardinal Pietro Diario. It is not difficult to identify both names, the first for

that of the painter Melozzo da Forli, the second for that of the donor, Cardinal Pietro Riario, the spendthrift nephew of Sixtus IV. The acquisition of this work has a special value for the Corsini Gallery, for specimens of Melozzo's art have become very rare. Examples are the angels detached from the choir of SS. Apostoli; the fresco detached from the walls of the old Vatican Library, with the kneeling figure of Platina, the librarian; the portrait of a boy in the Colonna Palace, very much damaged by restorations; the angels surrounding the grave of Juan Diego de Coca in the church of Santa Maria sopra Minerva; the sign of an apothecary (the Pestapepe) in the gallery at Forli; and the frescoes at Loreto. All the other pictures which bear his name in the National Galleries of London, Berlin, and the Louvre are the indisputable work of Justus of Gand.

Before leaving the field of the art of the Renaissance, I have to record the discovery of a set of interesting frescoes in the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore. It was a fact already established by the historians of that building that the aisles had been deformed by Cardinal d'Estouteville in 1483, and again by Cardinal Domenico Pinelli in 1599, in this sense, that the original roof, resting on trusses of the kingpost pattern, had been concealed from view by the construction of a vaulted ceiling at a lower level, thus diminishing the height of the aisles by one-third. The frescoes have been discovered in the space between the ceiling and the roof. They consist mainly of medallions with heads, or rather busts of bearded personages, apostles or prophets, holding white scrolls, on which various sentences were written, which it is impossible to decipher. The authorship of this remarkable set has been attributed by specialists to Jacopo da Torrita, Filippo Rusutti, Giovanni Cosma, Pietro Cavallini, and Cimabue. They only agree on one point: that they are by the same (much debated) hand which painted the well-known 'Benediction of Jacob' in the upper church of Assisi.

Not very different from these finds at Santa Maria Maggiore are those made lately in the abbey church of Grottaferrata, the venerable old seat of the Order of the Basilians, founded by St. Nilus at the beginning of the tenth century, near the classic springs of the Aqua Julia. Here, also, the original roof of the nave, resting on trusses, had been concealed from view by Cardinal Alessandro Farnese, in the year 1575, by means of a flat ceiling laid at a lower level; and here, also, valuable frescoes have been rediscovered in the upper walls of the nave, and on the front wall of the apse. They represent the Holy Trinity, King David, the story of Moses, and other subjects derived from the Greek version of the Scriptures, and were executed in the year 1272 under the rule of the hegoumenos Hilarion by an artist belonging to the Italo-Byzantine School, either a Byzantine himself or an Italian follower of the Byzantine style.

Near the modern church of the Madonna dell'Aquila, at Palestrina, in the vineyard of a Signor Carlo Sbardella, which occupies part of the site of the ancient Forum, a marble pedestal has been dug out, inscribed with the praises of a local worthy named Publius Elius Apollinaris Arlenius. This young man, feeling the approach of death when only nineteen years of age, asked and obtained leave from his father to bestow on the various Prænestinian clubs (*collegia*) to which he belonged a farm called "the Two Houses" (*duas Casas*), with the condition that the legatees should celebrate a banquet in his honour twice a year, viz., on October 19th, the anniversary of his birth, and on June 24th, the date of the will. The wish of the dying youth was accomplished in due course of time, and a statue was raised in his honour in the

Forum by his fellow-clubmen. Several farms of the Roman Campagna bore in ancient times the name "ad duas Casas," so that it is not easy to identify the special one mentioned in the will of Apollinaris. A "fundus duas Casas" was bequeathed by the Emperor Constantine to the church of SS. Silvestro e Martino ai Monti; a "possessio duas Casas" was left likewise to the church of SS. Pietro e Marcellino by the same prince; and even now it is customary for the foxhounds to meet once a year at the farm "delle due Case," at the sixth milestone of the Via Flaminia.

The Piazza di Venezia, first opened by Paul II. in 1468, under the direction of Meo del Caprino and Jacopo da Pietrasanta, his favourite architects, and enlarged by Paul III. in 1536, on the occasion of the triumphal entry of Charles V., is being transformed into an immense square, which covers part of the sites of Trajan's Forum, of the Septa Julia, of the Villa Publica, of the Vicus Pallacinae, of the houses and baths of Turcius Apronianus, of the Portico of Decius, and of the Via Flaminia, with its double row of tombs. To make room for this wilderness in the very centre of the city, many buildings of architectural or historical interest have been, or will be shortly, sacrificed: the Palazzetto di Venezia of the time of Paul II., the Palazzo Bolognetti - Torlonia, Michelangelo's house No. 32, Via de' Fornari, the house of Giulio Romano adjoining the mausoleum of the Claudian family, the house of the Mantaco family adjoining the mausoleum of Bibulus, the "corridor" or bridge built by Paul III. to connect the Palazzo di Venezia with the Church of the Araceli, and other less-known structures. The only consolation we can gather, and the only benefit we can derive from this wholesale destruction, is the certainty that many discoveries of value will be made in the course of the works. I have already described in the *Athenæum* those made on the site of the Palazzo Bolognetti-Torlonia, by which we have been able to fill up a considerable gap in the plan of ancient Rome, and to add many beautiful marbles to our collections. The last of these finds consists of a monument raised by a Publius Elius....., governor of the Imperial Mint, in honour of Caracalla, on the occasion of the emperor's triumphal return to Rome in the year 213, after having driven back the Alamanni beyond the frontier of the Rhine. Unless this marble pedestal has been brought to the spot by accident, from a more or less distant place, which I think rather improbable, it suggests the belief that one of the houses which faced the first section of the Via Flaminia, opposite the Septa Julia, belonged to this otherwise unknown governor of the Mint.

On the right bank of the Tiber, where once was the beautiful Porto Leonino, at the foot of the Palazzo Salviati, now the seat of the military school, one of the terminal stones has been found, erected between A.D. 101 and 103, by the chief commissioner of the river, Tiberius Julius Ferox, to mark the width of the *ripa* or levee which was the property of the Crown.

Near the same place, and at the depth of nineteen feet below the level of the modern Via della Lungara, two marble sarcophagi have come to light, with their lids still held in place by means of brass clamps. The opening of these two coffins in one of the rooms of the Museo Nazionale alle Terme has been performed with the same delicate care which I remember having used for the tomb of Crepereia Tryphena, on the day it was found under the south-east corner of the new Palazzo di Giustizia. The first was found to contain two bodies of different sex, which had been laid to rest not at the same time, but with a certain interval between one burial and the other, a detail proved by the fact that the bones of the man had been pushed aside to make room for those of his partner. The other coffin contained the

skeleton of a woman lying on a mattress stuffed with some kind of vegetable matter, which now presents the appearance of moss or peat. This couch was covered with a pall woven with threads of gold, and sprinkled with aromatic powder. The woman's head rested on a pillow, also stuffed with a resinous and fragrant substance. The only object pertaining to the *mundus muliebris* was a finger-ring cut out of bone. The bas-reliefs which adorn the front of the first sarcophagus are unmistakably pagan. They represent scenes of sacrifice performed by winged cupids, and also show a medallion with the bust of a man simply outlined, without any decided likeness. The scroll likewise, where the name of the deceased ought to have been engraved, has been left unfinished. This shows that the two bodies were buried in one of those coffins which dealers kept in their workshop by the hundreds, and to which they were expected to give the finishing touches only after their sale for a determined person. The other sarcophagus comes evidently from the studio of a Christian sculptor. The centre is occupied by the figure of a veiled lady, with hands raised in the attitude of prayer, in the garden of heaven. On the right corner appears the Good Shepherd, with the lost lamb on the shoulders, followed by twelve sheep. The opposite corner shows the figure of a man, clad in a pala, in the act of catching a fish with the hook, and holding in the left hand a basket which contains other fish.

This scene must be considered an allusion to the baptism shown by the representation sculptured on the next panel. A bearded man with a pallium thrown over the shoulders, and holding the book of the Gospels with the left hand, extends the right over the head of a youth who has just stepped into the baptismal font, the water of which reaches his waist. The lid of the sarcophagus is ornamented with dolphins and other more or less fantastic monsters disporting themselves in the sea. As in the preceding case, the scroll, which ought to have revealed to us the identity of the fair occupant of the grave, is nameless. The fact that both coffins have been found at a level higher than the surrounding classic remains of houses and tombs of the Via Septimiana proves that they must have been removed from their original site at a much later period, and, after the unscrupulous manner of the Dark Ages, emptied of their original contents, in favour of these three unknown parishioners of the church of S. Leonardo in Settimiana, which stood close by.

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE held one of their "surprise" sales on Saturday, when they offered pictures by old masters and works of the Early English School, derived from "numerous private collections and different sources." The chief interest centred in three lots, all more or less shockingly neglected, which the late Mr. John Tomlinson bought at a sale in Whitehaven nearly half a century ago for less than £1. Of these the most important was a very fine example of Romney, painted about 1777, in a very dirty condition, but not beyond careful restoration. It is a portrait of a young girl of about eight years of age, in white dress, holding a doll, and walking in a landscape beside her little brother, who is dressed in scarlet, and carries a toy gun; a terrier dog is jumping up towards the girl. The canvas is 60 in. by 47 in. This was bought by Messrs. Agnew for 6,500 gs. The other two pictures were catalogued as by Tilly Kettle; but the whole-length portrait of an officer in uniform, an Indian regiment encamped in the distance, 86 in. by 52 in., was probably an early work of Gainsborough, although it realized only 40 gs. The second, a portrait, doubtless, of his wife, a lady in slate-coloured dress, with gold sash and pearl ornaments, standing on a terrace, with an Indian background, 82 in. by 53 in., probably by Cotes, went for 205 gs.

Among the other pictures were: A. van Beveren, Fruit, Glasses, and Still Life on a Table, 360 gs. P. T. van Brussel, Vase of Flowers and a Bird's-

Nest, 110 gs. J. M. Nattier, Marie Claire Deschamps de Marcey, widow of the Marquis de Villette, and second wife of Henry St. John, first Viscount Bolingbroke, in white satin dress with blue bow and pearl ornaments (she died on March 18th, 1751, and was buried at Battersea), 1,350 gs. G. Terburg, A Lady in Grey Jacket, seated, with a dog in her lap, handing a letter to a maid who stands beside her, 1,600 gs. G. Morland, The Sportsman's Return, the well-known picture engraved by W. Ward in 1792, 400 gs. Gainsborough, Robert Butcher, in plum-coloured coat with white stock and wig, 190 gs. Lawrence, Mrs. Michel, in black velvet dress, large hat with white feathers, pearl necklace, 2,000 gs. Opie, Master Horace Churchill, in white dress, 490 gs. The total of the day for 144 lots was 16,940^l. 12s.

Concurrently with the sale at Christie's, one of a highly interesting, but very different character was being held at the Galeries Georges Petit, Paris, under the auspices of MM. Paul Chevalier and F. Lair-Dubreuil, the *commissaires-priseurs*. This comprised the pictures and objects of art which decorated the late Madame Ridgway's magnificent house in the Rue François Ier. Although the sale consisted of only 126 lots, the total amounted to 647,900 fr. The pictures and objects of art were inherited by the Marquise de Ganay from her mother, the late Madame Ridgway, who lent four Boucher panels to the Guildhall Exhibition of 1902. These four pictures were purchased, at or soon after that exhibition, for a sum stated to be 500,000 fr., and passed into Mr. Reginald Veale's collection, at the dispersal of which at Christie's on May 23rd, 1903, they realized 22,300 gs.

The Paris sale included a second set of four fine works by Boucher, two measuring 2 mètres by 1 mètre, and the other two 56 cent. by 74 cent. They are known under the title of *Les Quatre Saisons*, and were done for Madame de Pompadour; three of them are dated 1755. They were engraved by J. Daulle, who dedicated them to Madame de Pompadour, "Dame du Palais de la Reine," and inscribed them with the words, "Le tableau original appartient à Mme. de Pompadour." At her death these pictures passed into the collection of her brother, the Marquis de Ménars et de Marigny. At his death in 1782 they were sold for 1,402 livres, the purchaser being Rémy the expert (see Charles Blanc, 'Le Trésor de la Curiosité,' vol. ii, p. 49). From that time until 1848 all traces of them appear to have been lost, although at the Beaujon sale of 1787 one lot, consisting of "quatre tableaux faisant pendant: 'Les Saisons,'" was sold for 824 fr.; but it is not clear whether this series was identical with that commissioned by the Pompadour. In 1848 M. and Madame Ridgway obtained possession of the series; the provenance is apparently not known, but the price paid is said to have been only 16,000 fr. On Saturday the four pictures realized 360,000 fr.

The more important of the other works included a series of seven pictures by Hubert Robert, and of these, two, *Les Monuments de Rome*, and the companion, *Les Monuments de Paris*, the latter signed, and dated 1738, brought together 42,000 fr. Another pair by the same, *L'Abreuvoir* (signed, and dated 1804) and *L'Accident*, realized 15,200 fr. each; *Nature Morte*, signed, and dated 1768, 14,000 fr.; *Une Fontaine*, signed, and dated 1797, 8,400 fr.; and *Le Dessinateur*, 3,200 fr. A set of fine panels of Beauvais tapestry, *temp. Louis XIV.*, with Chinese scenes, sold for 60,000 fr.

Messrs. Christie sold on November 26th the following. Drawings: E. M. Wimperis, Reed-cutting, 56^l. J. Orrock, Woodhouse Mill, Leicestershire, 52^l. J. F. Miller, Gathering Apples, 63^l. J. Israëls, Wayfarers, 136^l. Pictures: J. Marié, Stranded Fishing-Boats on the Dutch Coast, 105^l. J. H. Weissenbruch, A Dutch River Scene, 273^l. J. Israëls, Returning from Church, 19^l.

The same firm sold on the 29th ult. the following engravings. After Morland: The Tavern Door, by J. R. Smith, 47^l; Travellers, and Cottagers, by W. Ward, 92^l. After Reynolds: Hon. Miss Monckton, by J. Jacobé, 29^l. After Tomkins: He Sleeps, by Bartolozzi, 27^l. After Lawrason: A Lady Hay-making, by J. R. Smith, 26^l. After Romney: Mrs. Stables and her Daughters, by the same, 37^l.

Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. A. H. HALLAM MURRAY has a private view at the Fine-Art Society's rooms to-day of water-colours 'On the Old Road through France to Florence.'

At the Dowdeswell Galleries Mr. N. W. Jungmann is exhibiting water-colours of Norway.

MR. T. WATT CAFE has been elected as honorary secretary of the Royal Society of British Artists, in place of Mr. T. F. M. Sheard, who has re-

signed the post. Mr. F. O. Salisbury and Mrs. Lee Hankey have been elected members of the same society.

THE promotion of the Gallery of Modern Art at Dublin is due to Mr. H. P. Lane, not Mr. H. P. Law, as we printed it last week.

M. CAROLUS-DURAN had an easy triumph in his candidature for the directorship of the Villa Médicis, in succession to M. Guillaume. He will be a serious loss in French art circles, for, since the death of Puvis de Chavannes, he has made an ideal president of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts. A new president will have to be elected, and probably the popular choice will fall on one of the three vice-presidents.

THE death is announced of Hector Giacomelli, the well-known artist and illustrator, who delineated birds and bird-life as very few others have done. He was born in Paris in 1822. For nearly forty years he contributed designs to various periodicals, such as *Le Magasin Pittoresque*, *L'Illustration*, *Le Monde Illustré*, and many others, in addition to such books as 'Jean Paul Choppart,' 'Livre de mes Petits-Enfants,' Michelet's 'L'Oiseau et l'Insecte,' 'Sous Bois' and 'Nos Oiseaux' by Theuerl, Lasserre's 'Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes,' Muller's 'La Forêt,' the *De Goncourt's* 'L'Histoire de Marie Antoinette,' Arthur Mangin's 'Les Jardins, Histoire et Description,' and very many others. In 1862 he published an exhaustive work on Raffet, with a complete bibliography of works he illustrated. Such books are now keenly sought after by collectors.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Gluck's 'Alcesteis.' QUEEN'S HALL.—'Everyman.' ADELPHI HALL.—Broadwood Concerts.

GLUCK'S 'Alcesteis' was performed by the students of the Royal College of Music at His Majesty's Theatre on Friday, December 2nd. When Beethoven heard Paer's 'Leonora' he told the composer that the libretto pleased him, and that he would set it to music. In like manner Gluck was probably attracted to the fine Grecian story by Lulli's opera, and thought he could obtain a better libretto than that of Quinault—

Que Lulli refroidit des sons de sa musique, according to the somewhat harsh verdict of the French satirist. Calsabigi, Austrian Court poet, wrote a libretto for Gluck, and his opera was published in 1769 with the famous preface which, up to a certain point, foreshadowed Wagner's theories respecting music-drama. In 1776 the opera was given, with many modifications, at Paris, when the scene in Act III. with Hercules was added. The song which he sings is not by Gluck, but by Gossec; the former positively refused to set it to music. The earlier part of the opera is magnificent; but interest in the pathetic story is not maintained up to the end, although there are still some interesting pages in the score. The Hercules scene is almost of music-hall order.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford conducted, and musicians owe him a debt of gratitude for thus enabling them to hear a work which, though so old, has never—so it appears—been performed in London. 'Orfeo' was given a few seasons ago, but with exception of this and the present performance of 'Alcesteis,' the present generation is ignorant of the master's works. The

general public, accustomed to Wagner and to modern music-drama, might not flock in crowds to hear them, might possibly show indifference in the matter; but it seems to us that if some enterprising manager were to give a Gluck cycle, including 'Orfeo,' 'Armide,' 'Alcesteis,' and the two 'Iphigenia's,' there would be a sufficient number of earnest lovers of music not only to prevent financial loss, but even to ensure a profit.

The performance of 'Alcesteis' was most interesting, and Miss Nannie Tout's impersonation of the faithful wife deserves very high praise. Mr. Ben Ivor Davies, too, as Admetus acquitted himself most creditably. The temple scene in Act I. was finely presented, and the lovely dancing chorus "Parez vos fronts de fleurs" was delightfully sung and acted. It seemed, indeed, a pity that so much time and work should have been devoted to preparing for this one and only performance. If the Royal College of Music could but give, say, half a dozen classical operas every year—operas which do not form part of the regular Covent Garden repertory—it would be of educational value to the students, of interest to musicians who take proper interest in their art, and a practical stepping-stone towards permanent opera in the metropolis. There are many schemes in the air, but as yet that is all.

The first London performance of Dr. Walford Davies's setting of the old morality play 'Everyman' was given by the London Choral Society, under the direction of Mr. Arthur Fagge, at the Queen's Hall on Monday evening. Since this gentleman started his London concerts he has shown enterprise of no ordinary kind. He gave an excellent performance of Sir Edward Elgar's 'Dream of Gerontius,' while 'The Apostles' is announced for February 13th. Dr. Davies's cantata, as the composer terms it, created a strong impression when produced last October at the Leeds Festival, and almost immediately afterwards Mr. Fagge decided to include it in his present series of concerts. We have already recorded our opinion of 'Everyman,' and, after a second hearing, still hold to it. The influence of Elgar is undoubtedly strong—stronger, indeed, than we at first realized—yet, in spite of that, there is a distinct manifestation of individuality. Strong influences, as history shows us, are bound to make themselves felt; and among many instances that of Mozart over Beethoven is certainly one of the most remarkable. The setting of the morality play is serious, but never dull; it is dramatic, but never stagey; and throughout—or nearly so—the composer produces a peculiar mystic effect; the music affects us as colour and atmosphere; we feel it as a means, and not as an end. The soloists were the Misses Gleeson-White and Muriel Foster (who took part in the original production of the work at Leeds), and Messrs. Gregory Hast and Kennerley Rumford, and they all deserve praise for their sympathetic rendering of their respective parts. The choir sang admirably, but the orchestral playing was at times uncertain, and often too loud.

The interesting series of Broadwood Concerts, which commenced at the Aeolian Hall

on November 3rd, has been well attended. At the first were heard three Novellettes for strings, by Mr. Frank Bridge, of which the second and third proved the most spontaneous. The young composer won the open scholarship for composition at the Royal College of Music in 1899. The Cathie Quartet was heard in these movements, also, in conjunction with the Wessely Quartet, in Mendelssohn's Octet, a wonderful work for a youth in his teens, yet one which in these days shows signs of age. At the second concert, November 17th, the Bohemian Quartet performed Borodin's clever Quartet in D, and Brahms's fine Quintet for Clarinet (Mr. Charles Draper) and Strings, Op. 115, playing with their customary skill and enthusiasm. At the third concert, on December 1st, Mr. Herbert A. Fricker's select choir from Leeds sang English madrigals by Gibbons, Wilbye, Benet, Pearsall, and Croce's dignified 'Cynthia, thy Song,' also some part-songs by Brahms. The voices were not well balanced, neither were the renderings of the numbers, with the exception of the Croce 'Cynthia' and Benet's 'All Creatures now,' particularly interesting. A Sonata in A for two violins, double-bass, and piano, by Dr. Arne, was heard for the first time, it is supposed, since his death in 1778. The music is light and graceful, but the composer as a writer of simple chamber music was thrown too much into the shade by his contemporary Haydn. The performers were Messrs. F. Thistleton, R. Cambridge, and C. Hobday, and Miss Grace Sunderland.

Musical Gossip.

MR. LEONARD BORWICK, a sound musician and able pianist, gave his only recital this season at St. James's Hall on Wednesday afternoon. His programme included Beethoven's Sonata in E minor, of which we only heard the second movement, which was rendered with marked refinement. Two pieces of Domenico Scarlatti were played with unerring technique and in crisp brilliant style. The most important item of the afternoon was Schumann's great Fantasia in C, Op. 17, which only needed a little more warmth and variety of tone-colour; Mr. Borwick's conception of the work was admirable.

THE second Patron's Fund Concert of the Royal College of Music, devoted to chamber music, was given at the *Æolian* Hall on Tuesday evening. A pianoforte quartet by Mr. W. Hurlestone showed good work, and the slow movement spontaneity and charm. In a concert piece for viola and piano, by Mr. E. Trevor Bax, one felt latent strength, but too obvious an effort to escape the commonplace. Four Preludes for Pianoforte, by Mr. Paul Corder, proved very attractive. The young composer expresses his ideas without extravagance, and the writing for the instrument is clever and effective; here and there a Chopin touch is only natural. The music was well played by Mr. York Bowen.

THE twentieth annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians will be held at Manchester, January 2nd to 7th, 1905. At the opening meeting in the Town Hall the Lord Mayor will preside, and Sir Frederick Bridge, the chairman, will deliver an address on 'A Weak Point in our Musical Education.' During the week a paper for discussion, 'Some Blots upon English Music,' will be read by Mr. T. Henderson; and addresses will be delivered by Mr. James Dawber, on 'The Desirability of

still further safeguarding the Entrance to the Musical Profession'; Mr. W. A. C. Cruickshank, on 'The Progress of Music during the Nineteenth Century'; and Mr. S. Midgley, on 'Municipalities and Music, with Special Reference to a Municipal Orchestra.'

MR. LOUIS HILLIER announces a musical festival at Queen's Hall on June 1st to 3rd, and 6th to 8th, 1905. The programmes will include several orchestral works not yet heard in London. The orchestra will be under the direction of M. Léon Rinskoff.

MR. RICHARD PEYTON has offered 10,500/- to the Council of Birmingham University for the endowment of a Chair of Music, on condition that the first occupant shall be Sir Edward Elgar—a noble sum and an excellent condition.

THE Portuguese national hymn ('Hymno da Carta'), which has been much played here during the last few weeks, was composed by Dom Pedro IV., the first constitutional King of Portugal, and the first Emperor of Brazil. It was written in 1826, and performed with orchestral accompaniment by João Evangelista Pereira da Costa, at Lisbon, on January 6th, 1827. Dom Pedro studied music for six years (1816-22) at Rio Janeiro, under Sigismund Neukomm, the pupil and friend of Haydn. He wrote other hymns besides the one in question, and, according to the 'Biographical Dictionary of Portuguese Musicians,' by Ernesto Vieira, recently published at Lisbon, an opera of his was performed at the Théâtre des Italiens, Paris, in 1832.

THE announcement that Herr Weingartner intends to resign his post of conductor of the Symphony Concerts at Berlin has naturally caused much excitement among musical circles in that city. The subscribers have drawn up an address begging him to reconsider the matter. At the head of the signatures stands that of Adolphe von Menzel, almost a nonagenarian, the painter of the famous picture in the Berlin Museum 'A Flute Concert at Sans Souci.'

THE tenth anniversary of the death of Anton Rubinstein was celebrated by the Imperial Russian Society of Music at St. Petersburg on the 20th of last month. His 'Ocean' Symphony was performed under the direction of M. E. Napravnik; Paul Kohn gave a masterly rendering of the pianist-composer's Concerto in E flat; and some of his charming songs were sung by M. Schaliapin.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Sunday Society Concert, 3.30 Queen's Hall.
MON.	Sunday League, 7. Queen's Hall.
	Miss Clarendon's Vocal Recital, 3. Bechstein Hall.
	Miss Ethel Wood's Vocal Recital, 8.15, Bechstein Hall.
	Nora Clench Quartet, 8.30, Eolian Hall.
TUES.	Mr. Herbert Fryer's Pianoforte Recital, 8.30, Steinway Hall.
	Mr. Robert Newman's Testimonial Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
	Von Reuter's Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Madame J. Arcotwka's Vocal Recital, 8.30, Bechstein Hall.
THURS.	London Symphony Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
	Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Eolian Hall.
	Stevens' International Concert, 8.30, Queen's Hall.
	Miss Edith F. Cooper's Concert, 8.30, Steinway Hall.
SAT.	Mozart Society, 3, Portman Rooms.
	Mr. Frederic Lamond's Chopin Recital, 3.30, Bechstein Hall.

Drama

THE WEEK.

ROYALTY.—'The Maid's Tragedy.' By Beaumont and Fletcher.

THE production by the Mermaid Society at the Royalty Theatre of 'The Maid's Tragedy' of Beaumont and Fletcher, though it partakes to some extent of the nature of an amateur entertainment, is one of the earliest efforts that have been made to test the value of these writers as acting dramatists. Beautiful as is its verse,

'The Faithful Shepherdess,' which has been more than once seen, is more of a spectacle, or even of a masque, than a drama, while 'The Knight of the Burning Pestle,' recently given, is burlesque. 'The Maid's Tragedy' is, however, a serious tragedy—perhaps the most serious, though scarcely the most poetical, of the great collaborators. In its class it is a fine and powerful work, the source of which will, doubtless, repay in time German investigation in Spanish fiction. It may be seen on the stage with pleasure and profit, and its performance offers no difficulties such as beset that of Ford's 'Broken Heart.' Difficulties it has, though of another kind, which are formidable enough greatly to discount the value of the experiment. Fletcher's foulness—we prefer to assign it to him, though scarce justified, perhaps, in so doing—is a thing apart, unlike anything else in the works of his contemporaries. He shows women revelling in unclean speech. In so doing he depicted faithfully enough a feature common in his time. Something of the kind is done in modern Italian literature by Gabriele d'Annunzio, who, however, informs with poetry and sentiment the openly avowed wantonness of his Renaissance waiting-women. When one reads the utterances Fletcher puts into the mouth of Dula, one is reconciled to the fact that they were not originally, at least, spoken by women. Neither very numerous nor very significant are, perhaps, the omissions that have to be made on the score of decency. It is another matter with those exacted by the requirements of a modern audience in respect of brevity. The long speeches to which the Elizabethans listened contentedly are no more to the taste of the men of to-day than are long sermons. It may not, accordingly, be said that much added vivacity due to interpretation is reaped by those who are familiar with the play in perusal. Something, however, is gained, and for that we are grateful. We have a good view of life in classic Rhodes as it presented itself to our Tudor ancestors. The dramatic significance of the situation is fairly realized, the elocution is creditable, and the pathos of certain of the scenes is expressed. Least defensible of the excisions is that of the scenes in which Melantius wins to the side of the conspirators the reluctant Calianax, a species of later Polonius. These are among the most amusing in Jacobean or Carolinean drama. Amintor, the hero, who submits abjectly to the dishonour done him by the king, because he dare not lift his hand against royalty, is but a poor creature. Melantius is cast in a different mould. This part was chosen by Betterton, who played it for his final benefit, and died as a result of the means he took to suppress a violent attack of gout. Aspatia, who, donning masculine habiliments, strikes and kicks Amintor, her false lover, and compels him to a duel, in which she receives, as she hoped, death at his hands, is the real heroine of the tragedy. Evadne, of course, is not a maid, and avows her disbelief of the existence of such at her years. She is resolutely played by Miss Dora Hole, the lachrymose Aspatia being assigned Miss Ada Potter. Mr. W. H. Kemble is Melantius, and Mr. Frank Lascelles the offending King.

Dramatic Gossip.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN & Co. will publish next week a work on 'Shakespearian Tragedy,' by Prof. A. C. Bradley, of Oxford. In it the author takes the four principal tragedies—'Hamlet,' 'Othello,' 'King Lear,' and 'Macbeth'—and considers them from a single point of view. The plays are interpreted by a method of close analysis, dissection, and comparison, with the object of increasing our understanding and enjoyment of them purely as dramas.

A WORKMANLIKE version of the 'Pagliacci' of Signor Leoncavallo has been written by Mr. Charles Brookfield, and produced by Mrs. Brown Potter at the Savoy. Her acting as Nedda, though not void of artistic, shows her powers at their best. Mr. Charles Warner gives a strikingly powerful rendering of Canio, and Mr. Gilbert Hare is effective as the deformed Pierrot. A stimulating entertainment is thus obtained, and the acting has claims on artistic recognition. It is not, however, hypercritical to say that the presentation has a curious species of inequality, the performance of Mr. Warner scarcely belonging to the same domain of art as that of his associates.

A SOLITARY representation of 'The Merchant of Venice' was given at the Lyric Theatre on Tuesday afternoon by the company of Miss Ellen Terry. Miss Terry herself reappearing as Portia. The occasion was to exhibit Mr. Norman Forbes in Shylock, a part in which, in the country, he has occasionally replaced Sir Henry Irving, but had not previously been seen in London. His performance of Shylock is original and intellectual. Where it goes wrong is where most English acting errs, in demanding for the character more sympathy than it deserves or can carry. Miss Terry repeats her interpretation of Portia, long in its way unrivalled. Her company presents the whole with much prettiness. We wonder if the time is now for ever fled when actors will see that a play such as this demands something more than prettiness, and will give it the requisite infusion of passion.

THE rights of 'Charley's Aunt,' the most successful of modern farces, have returned into the hands of Mr. Brandon Thomas, the author. The piece was consequently produced at the Comedy on Monday. Mr. Penley's part of Lord Fancourt Babberley being taken by Mr. Stanley Cooke, who has played it in the country, and Mr. Brandon Thomas resuming his original rôle of Sir Francis Chesney.

'FOURCHETTE & Co.' is the title of a one-act farce by Mr. Brandon Thomas, which, without adding much to the vivacity of the entertainment, is given at the Comedy in front of 'Charley's Aunt.' Mr. Thomas takes part in the performance.

'THE HOUSEKEEPER,' a three-act farce by Beatrice Heron-Maxwell and Metcalfe Wood, has been successfully produced by Mr. and Mrs. Kendal at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham. Its opening scene has a faint suggestion of 'She Stoops to Conquer.'

'BELLAFRONT,' as was called the version promised by the Mermaid Society of Dekker's most famous play, will not be given, the reception of previous performances of Tudor tragedy not being such as to justify the outlay indispensable to its production. In its place 'The Confederacy' of Vanbrugh will be revived. Further presentations of 'The Knight of the Burning Pestle' are also promised. It is to be hoped that no interference of authority is responsible for the change of programme. The morality that strains at Dekker and swallows Vanbrugh might, however, be regarded as characteristically British.

DURING recent years the movement of the stage has been westward, and the easternmost theatres of the West Central district have one by one shut their doors. That movement seems to have been arrested, and we wait with some interest to see what will be the fate of the newly erected Gaiety and the houses promised in Bow Street and Aldwych.

WHAT is called "the Incorporated Stage Society" promises for the 17th a performance of Tolstoy's 'Power of Darkness.' The rapid growth of societies of this nature is a curious and not wholly satisfactory sign of the times.

THE dresses for the forthcoming revival at His Majesty's of 'Much Ado about Nothing' are to be designed by Mr. Byam Shaw.

'PETER PARR; OR, THE BOY WHO WOULD NOT GROW UP,' is the title bestowed by Mr. J. M. Barrie upon his play for children, to be given at the Duke of York's Theatre.

THE death of Mrs. G. H. Gilbert, which is announced from New York, removes another member of the Daly company and an actress of high mark. Ann Hartley was born at Rochdale in October, 1821, and began her stage career as a dancer at Bury St. Edmunds. She is said to have been seen at the Haymarket. She married in 1846 G. H. Gilbert, a dancer. In America she first began to play old women, a line of part in which ultimately she had no equal. In 1869 she joined the Daly company, of which she was one of the most artistic members. Knowledge of most of the parts she created with that company is confined to America, but she is remembered in this country in 'Dollars and Sense,' 'A Night Off,' 'Nancy & Co.,' 'The Railroad of Love,' 'Taming of the Shrew,' and many other pieces. She was playing to the last in a piece named 'Granny,' written specially for her by Mr. Clyde Fitch, and died in harness, contrasting strangely with Madame Janauschek, her junior by nearly a decade, who had for many years lived in retirement. Mrs. Gilbert's death involves a loss to the stage. An artist to the finger-tips, she was guilty of none of the extravagances which marred the performance of many compeers, her equals in capacity, but her inferiors in artistic sense and conscience.

'DER FAMILIENTAG,' a three-act comedy by Gustav Kadelburg, has been successfully produced at the Lustspielhaus, Berlin. It deals with a condition of affairs wholly German, consisting partly of a sort of annual family gathering and partly of what the French would call concile de famille. Herr Schoenfeld, as a jovial bon vivant, carried off the chief honours of the interpretation.

'ARMIDE ET GILDIS,' a play in verse, in five acts and six tableaux, by M. Camille de Sainte-Croix, given at the Odéon, deals with characters in Tasso's great poem, and depicts incidents supposed to occur during the siege of Jerusalem. Mlle. Sergine makes a prosperous début as Armide, M. Dorival is Renaud (Rinaldo), and Mlle. Even, Gildis.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—F. P.—E. G.—K. & Co.—T. H.—A. L.—received.

J. E. H.—Not new to us.

A. S.—Many thanks.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.

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